

On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

Website: www.arubatoday.com

Tuesday, October 20 2009



Coast Guards arrest canoeist carrying drugs

The Netherlands Antilles and Aruban Coast Guard say they arrested a canoeist carrying 50 kilos of drugs on Saturday.

The canoe, which was picked up off the coast of Aruba near Barcadera, at three o'clock in the morning, was carrying two bales of marijuana and one of cocaine.

The identity of the canoeist, who is now in jail, has not been released. □

Rob Smith Receives a warm welcome at the Radisson



PALM BEACH – Carlson Hotels Vice President of Operations Steve Hedberg, introduced new General Manager Rob Smith to the associates of the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa during an informal gathering at the resort's Grand Caribbean Ballroom.

Smith however required no formal introductions as he has been a resident of Aruba for the past 14 years and a frequent local guest at the Radisson, enjoying the property with his family over Mother's and Father's Day brunch, visiting the spa and the fitness center and using the pool as a regular guest during his years as the General Manager of the neighboring property, the Wyndham Aruba Resort, later the Westin Aruba Resort, and in the past two years in his capacity as the President & CEO of the Aruba Hotel & Tourism Association.

Continued on Page 4

Aruba Featured on Carnival Miracle's Eight-Day Caribbean Cruises from Fort Lauderdale



Carnival Cruise Lines has modified the Carnival Miracle's seasonal Caribbean

cruise schedule to include a 10-hour stop in Aruba, one of the region's most scenic

and charming destinations with beautiful beaches and a distinctive Dutch ambiance.

The island will be featured on the ship's eight-day voyages from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., operating October 2010 to March 2011. Other ports on the itinerary include Grand Turk, La Romana/Casa de Campo, and Curacao, each of which offers magnificent

beaches and a diversity of landside experiences. Carnival Miracle operates a seasonal schedule of eight-day Caribbean voyages from Fort Lauderdale in the winter and eight-day Caribbean voyages from New York in the summer. □



At the Occidental Grand Aruba Resort & Casino

Sabrina & Andre celebrate love as the sun sets

Toes-in-the-Sand ceremony for the Fiorinos



PALM BEACH - Sabrina Medeiros & Andre Fiorino said "I do" to one another as the sun gently set into the sea at the Occidental Grand Aruba. Witnessed by family and friends, Rev Robert

Gibson delivered a beautiful ceremony followed by the signing of documents, official champagne and cake cutting ceremonies and romantic photos on the beach.

Mr. and Mrs. Andre and

Sabrina Fiorino continued their beach blessing with a toes-in-the-sand cocktail and dinner reception on the beach with dancing and music all night long. Guaranteed to take your breath away, the Occidental Grand Aruba offers luxury in every sense of the word, with a truly elegant decor, beautiful rooms and countless facilities. Congratulations Sabrina and Andre from Aruba Today and Bella Aruba Photography. □

~ Photos by Julia Renfro ~



All Proceeds Will Go To The Mary Joan Breast Cancer Foundation

Marriott Organizes Pink Walk & Fashion Show On October 22nd



PALM BEACH - Internationally the month of October stands for the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM). Therefore on October 22nd the Aruba Marriott organizes a "pink walk" in cooperation with other hotels in Aruba followed by a spectacular fashion show in Marriott's hotel lobby. The initiative to organize a Pink Ribbon event came from the Recreation department of the Marriott Aruba Vacation Club. "We want to create awareness about breast cancer for our local community and guests and raise funds to support the Mary Joan Breast Cancer Foundation" says, Shuraima Henriquez, Ocean Club & Surf

Club Recreation Manager. This Thursday October 22nd Marriott invites all guests and locals to participate in the pink walk, which starts at 5:00 PM from the road between La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club and Amsterdam Manor on Eagle Beach. The walk will pass all high rise hotels ending at the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino. To participate for the pink walk, you can sign up at Marriott's Surf Club Recreation Club Matey's Hall.

Contribution for the pink walk is 15 florins or \$8.50 dollars and includes a Hotel for a Cure T-Shirt and refreshments.

Following the pink walk Marriott welcomes you to a

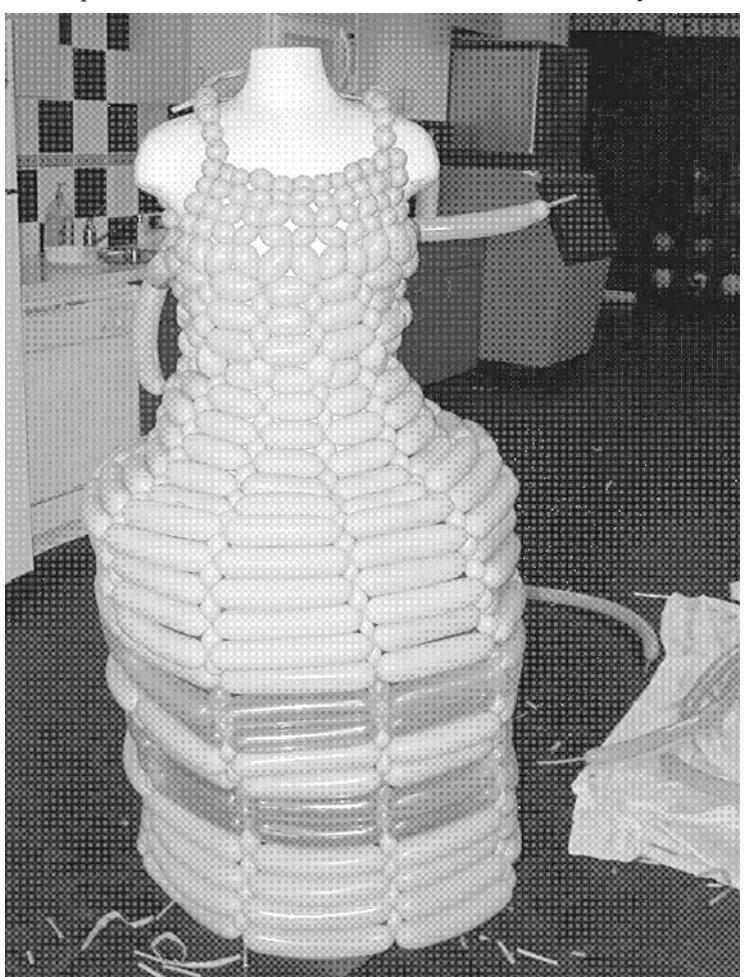


spectacular fashion show. This never-done-before event in Aruba is a must see fashion show with dresses made of balloons created by Marriott's associates. The show starts at 7:30 PM in Marriott's hotel lobby. MC during the fashion show is PR-diva Rona Coster. Donations can be made throughout the show and all proceeds will be donated to the Mary Joan Breast Cancer Foundation. In 2007, the Marriott organized a beach walk raise funds towards the same cause, collecting 1,000 florins in one day. This year the Marriott Ocean & Surf Club Recreation department organized weekly events on Thursdays during the entire month of October. Guests were encouraged to create their own tie dye T-Shirt and "pink ribbon" beads. Calendars, T-shirts, cakes and other merchandise were sold to generate donations. So far, Marriott's fund raising initiatives brought together 1,250 florins. The final event for the breast cancer awareness month is the pink walk and fashion show on October 22nd. The donations collected

during the month of October for the Breast Cancer awareness will be presented by means of a cheque to the Mary Joan Breast Cancer Foundation on November 1st.

In the pictures: Marriott Aruba Vacation Club Recreation team

selling Pink ribbon T-shirts for the Mary Joan Breast Cancer Foundation, One of the few balloon dress creations for the fashion show on Thursday October 22nd and Marriott Aruba Vacation Club Recreation team. □



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Rob Smith Receives a warm welcome at the Radisson



Continued from Front Page
 Smith shared how excited he was to become the new General Manager of the famed Radisson, the flag ship resort and the jewel of the Carlson Hotel chain crown, and pledged to become part of the team as an involved General Manager with an open door policy, and a strong commitment to facilitate the work of the associates any way he can. Smith brings along rich and diverse experiences having started his career as an assistant server. He reached a general manager's position, in Charlotte North Carolina, by age 27, then was asked to go to Aruba for an executive position with the Wyndham Resort. Both Smith & Hedberg fielded



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De Palm partner TUI-UK supports local charity Sonrisa

ORANJESTAD - Recently, De Palm Tours partner TUI-United Kingdom, in conjunction with First Choice and Thomson tour companies, presented the local foundation of Sonrisa with a donation check of \$1,291.00.

TUI representative Claire Wright and her staff, who work with De Palm Tours to oversee summer charter flights coming to Aruba from London and Manchester, organized a charity sail on De Palm Pleasure, the island's most popular snorkel and sail excursion. The event was held this summer with guests from the Manchester and London charters, who enjoyed a memorable sunset sail while also contributing to the island community.

Sonrisa is a foundation dedicated to assisting and promoting the overall wellbeing of the island's mentally and physically challenged individuals.

Sonrisa representative Angelique Perez gratefully

accepted the check last Friday afternoon, and said that the funds would go towards the purchase of land for a social and activity center for the organization. □



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*** Human Hints Daily ***

When You Know, You Don't Care

When we fully embrace Unity consciousness, we master the ability to physically manifest, but we no longer care because at that point, we know we already have everything.

When we know it's an illusion, we don't care about the result of our pursuits. We no longer seek fulfillment outside of ourselves, because we know that everything is within us.

The cause is your absolute faith in your intimate connection to all things. The result is having everything the

three dimensional illusion has to offer. When we know it's an illusion, we have control over it so we quickly loose interest.

Enlightenment is usually not an Ecstatic Experience of Infinite Bliss. When we realize that the Illusion is just a false sense of feeling separate, we become aware of Unity Consciousness, where we are all a part of Infinite Abundance. It is the realization of Completion that has always been there, far more natural

and effortless than anything in the physical realm.

Ego thinks Enlightenment will be a thrill ride, but we all know that the true thrill ride is being an Unenlightened Human. When we see how hollow the Illusion really is, we gain control over the ride, and the thrill goes away. It's only thrilling because we think it's real.

You won't find a thrill in enlightenment, but you will find Ultimate Completion. When you release all emotional attachments from physical things, people, and situations, you will find the power to embrace them fully. Without emotional attachment to the physical illusion, you will have no fear, and you will be able to open yourself without

reserve.

Since the goal is to release your emotional attachment to the physical, your emotions will show you what part of the physical world you're attached to. When something in the physical world incites your emotions, you are emotionally attached to it, and it has control over you.

You don't have to stop caring, just care in a different way. Instead of trying to control, release the emotional stranglehold you have on yourself and have faith that everything is for the best. Let the Universe do its thing, because you have no choice. You can't control Infinite Unity Consciousness. That's just silly.

The trick is to embrace the

physical world in every way, while knowing that it is an illusion. Be completely dedicated to every moment, knowing that it can all disappear in an instant. Pursue your dreams with passion, while not caring at all about the result of your efforts. The outcome of our efforts is not for us to decide. Only when we let go of the outcome, can we fully embrace the pursuit.

Until Tomorrow...

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has studied many avenues of alternative thought. Human Hints Daily is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.



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Experience Papillon's gripping story! Introducing a catching special for the early Birds

PALM BEACH – Henri Charrière, one of the world's most famous prisoners, would surely have had the time of his life at Papillon Restaurant in The Village, across from the Radisson Resort. Nicknamed Papillon because of the butterfly tattoo on his chest, the Frenchman was the first convict to escape from Devil's Island, something that nobody had ever done before. Charrière's thrilling, gripping...

auto-biography has been the concept behind Papillon Restaurant. The décor, the decorations and especially the restrooms wink at the thirteen terrible years Papillon spent in prison in French Guyana. Papillon restaurant's menu reflects the Frenchman's arduous journey to freedom: classic French dishes have been dusted with daring Caribbean flair and are a culinary journey for your taste buds. The spacious outside terrace is perfect for casual fine dining; the iron bars, flecks of rust and stains on the walls make one very glad not to be in Papillon's shoes in the 1940's! Charrière would undoubtedly have loved 'his' place on Aruba: this is luxury living for anyone!

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Papillon Restaurant offers a daily Early Bird special. A delicious 3-course meal with a glass of house wine for just \$29.75 per person between 5pm and 7pm

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Papillon's opening hours are from 5 pm until midnight. The restaurant's daily specials will be explained by the staff. For reservations, please call 586 5400 or go to www.papillonaruba.com.

Papillon Restaurant is located in The Village, just across from the Radisson Resort.

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Nepal to open art treasure trove to world

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From Oct 30 Nepal will hold its first international art festival where works by Nepali artists will be displayed along with those of international artists from nearly 30 countries as diverse as Aruba, Curacao, Jordan, China, Palestine and Japan.

It is the brainchild of Sangeeta Thapa, Nepal's only woman art curator, who had been planning the event since 2006, when Nepal's Maoist civil war ended after 10 years.



The five-day festival, to be held simultaneously in three different venues - also a first in Nepal - has a theme: "Separating the Myth from Reality - Status of Women".

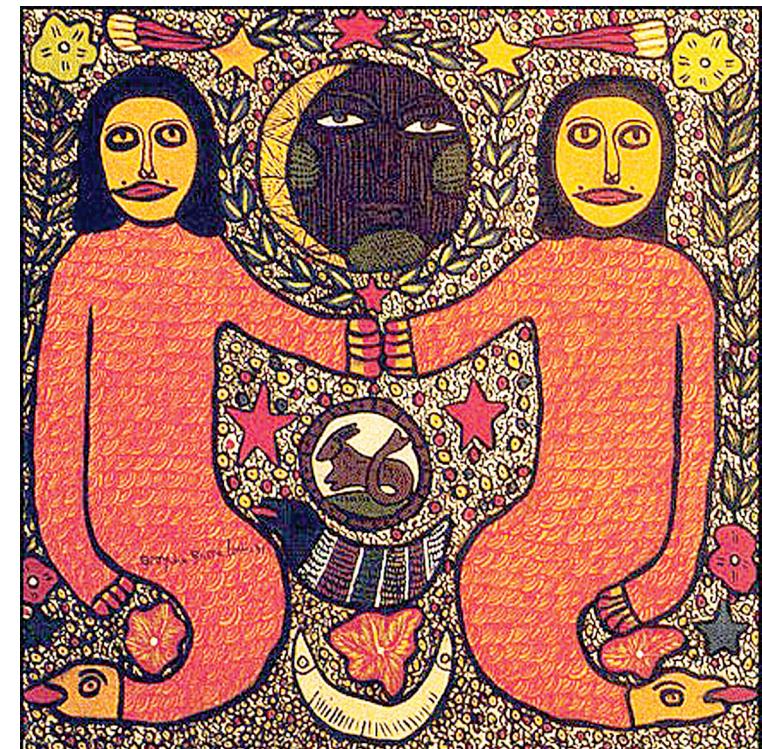
"I felt this is the right time to hold the festival," says the 48-year-old, who also runs the Siddhartha Art Gallery in the capital from what in the past used to be the stables of a Rana palace but now has been converted into one of Kathmandu's most trendy places with its shops and restaurants.

"Out of the 601 members of parliament, a large number are women. Women have never been more politically conscious in Nepal with such high representation in the house.

"And yet we have instances like women being tortured in villages on the suspicion that they are witches, wives being murdered for dowry, increasing violence against women and that too in a society that reveres women deities. I think it is unacceptable.

"Visual arts can play an important role in presenting such issues to a broader base of people. It can influence these very people to remove the stigma and exploitation that women have been shackled with throughout history."

Artists from different parts of the world will contribute to the theme reflecting the cultures of their own countries. Jordanian painter Juman Al Nimri, for instance, will focus on honour killings in Islamic countries while the artists from Tibet will comment, tongue in cheek, on the restraints they have to live with.



Nepal's own indigenous art can be traced back to the 11th century when King Jaya Sthiti Malla ordained that the community known as Chitrakars - picture makers - should dedicate themselves to art and they became painters for the temples and palaces.

"And yet we have instances like women being tortured in villages on the suspicion that they are witches, wives being murdered for dowry, increasing violence against women and that too in a society that reveres women deities. I think it is unacceptable.

"There were 41 palaces during their reign," says Thapa. "So there was a great demand for portraits of the premiers, their children, favourite concubine and hunting scenes."

When the Ranas were overthrown by a pro-democracy movement in 1950 and the Shah kings took their place, ironically, King Mahendra, who sacked the elected prime minister and banned political parties, encouraged the arts and artists.

"He realised that art was a way of holding people together," Thapa says. "He invited all the artists who had gone into exile in India or Europe to return and evolve art in Nepal."

Though many Nepali artists studied in art colleges in

Kolkata, Mumbai, Vadodara and Paris, their work was not known in their own country or in the neighbouring region due to the continuous turmoil that saw three pro-democracy movements in 1950, 1990 and 2006.

"The Maoist movement decimated the people who could afford to buy art," Thapa says. "So the price of art in Nepal still remains very low."

The October festival, Thapa is hoping, will act as an ice breaker.

"I am testing the waters," she says. "If it is successful, we can think of having a Kathmandu Biennial like the Berlin Biennial."

It will also test the tolerance level of Nepal.

"Nepalis have a high tolerance level," she says. "In countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh and India, the moral police are cracking down on art exhibitions if they include nudes."

"But we have several exhibits that will shock you and challenge you. Like this work from the Netherlands. Titled 'Prickpot', it comprises a glass vessel filled with penises. The audience reaction will prove how tolerant Nepal still remains." □

Sunset Grille, a prime Steakhouse offering Spa Cuisine



Palm Beach – The Sunset Grille at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa needs no introduction. The award winning American steakhouse with its chic, cosmopolitan atmosphere headlines Prime Beef, the highest grade U.S.D.A -- only 2% of all beef is graded prime, required to age a minimum of 4 weeks. While steaks and chops make up the heart of the menu, the resort's Restaurant Chef Maarten Smeets innovated

unparalleled appetizers and extraordinary desserts, which helped the Sunset Grille achieve the Triple AAA's elite four-diamond status – a rare feat for steakhouses. Sunset Grille well-known as the number one steakhouse in Aruba offers also spa cuisine, for the health conscious visitors, featuring appetizers, salads and a wide array of seafood selections.

The spa cuisine dishes are balanced by enhancing

flavors with citrus, spice and herbs and taste is elevated by marinating, smoking and grilling, Smeets explains.

"We now use many more herbs, vegetables, grains and fibers," he adds, "all designed to sustain a healthier life style; and we stay away from saturated fats and refined sugars, as well as use salt sparingly," he informs.

"The Sunset Grille kitchen," Smeets reveals, "uses no trans fats, and our guests," he banters, "stay healthy, wealthy and wise with our new and exciting spa cuisine."

Among the patrons favorite dishes are, the Sunset Grille's famous Chop House Martini Salad, "Shaken not Stirred;" the lobster bisque with a pastry crust, the various cuts of prime beef, the popular Rack of Lamb, Stuffed Quail and the delicious Veal Oscar. The spa cuisine features items such as Tuna Tataki, the Spinach Salad, Chilean Seabass, grilled Swordfish and the Asian style Salmon



and Scallops served with the popular Soba Noodles.

The Sunset Grille always endeavors to exceed guests' expectations by purchasing the very best products available and preparing them in accordance with a combination of "tried and true" as well as cutting edge contemporary methods, Smeets explains.

Simply put, the Sunset Grille culinary team buys the best products, and cooks them the best way they know, refusing

to cut corners, especially when it comes to buying, aging and cutting meat. No wonder the readers of Caribbean Travel & Life named it the top restaurant in the Caribbean. □



Palm beach – The Lazy Lizard in a one stop shop before you hit the waves. Designed to stimulate your shopping instincts, the beautiful store is hard to resist. What you'll

Life's a beach at the Lazy Lizard



find at the new South Beach Centre on Palm Beach, just a few steps away from the Hard Rock Café, is absolutely gorgeous: hand picked gifts,

souvenirs, beach and resort wear, for women, men and kids. It's all on display from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day. The tastefully arranged store is



signature Jodi Tobman-Hagedoorn, the Boston-born retailer at the helm of Salamander Holdings family of fun stores, The Juggling Fish, The Coconut Trading Co., T.H. Palm & Company & The Lazy Lizard. You will find a great selection of children's gifts here. In fact an entire store section is dedicated to gifts with a tropical appeal for babies and toddlers, among them whimsical plush stuffed iguanas, parrots and seahorses. Moreover, a bonanza of fridge magnets, hand-made silver jewelry, batik beach

wraps, throws, bags and hats awaits you. Tel.: 586 6206. For more information you may write to: orders@salamanderholdings.com □



Theo rips coalition partner for comments on Cay Bay

P H I L I P S B U R G -- Commissioner Theo Heyliger says he intends to ask National Alliance (NA) leader William Marlin, his coalition partner in government, to "make a serious effort to get his members under control and remind them that they are no longer in opposition."

Heyliger was expressing his anger over comments made by Commissioner Hyacinth Richardson's Executive Assistant Edwin James on Radio Soualiga 99.9FM last week Friday.

James had read a statement on air criticising government's plans and motives for the development of the Cay Bay area and, according to Heyliger, drumming up support against any future project, without having the proper information or understanding about the nature of development in the area.

The statement read in part: "Through the people's representatives in government who should be championing

the people's desires and wishes and whom they should be closely in contact with, not only during election time, people should now be motivated, mobilised and moved into taking appropriate actions by letting government know about their concerns which they obviously forgot." It referred to "certain politicians" as controlling people "at the crack of their whips, whims and wills" and accused them of believing that only they had dreams while others had wishful thoughts. It also said certain politicians were "hell bent on embarking on devastating deeds to destroy dreams of others."

Heyliger said he had no problem discussing the facts as they were with the residents of the area, but all parties, including his coalition partners, had to be careful when disseminating information and/or making uninformed comments. "He (James) is only a few seconds' walk away from my office. He could have simply walked



over and asked a question," Heyliger said.

He said initial plans for the development of Cay Bay dated back to 1994 based on a project of the then-St. Maarten Patriotic Alliance (SPA), now National Alliance. "The only thing that government has done now is commission a study of how the area could be developed, taking a number of factors into consideration, including environmental and future developments at GEBE," Heyliger said.

Heyliger explained that the latter aspect needed serious discussion with and understanding from the community. He said the utility

company would need space to expand its operation. With its new generators coming online in December, GEBE will need additional space for storage tanks for heavy fuel, among other things, he explained.

"I totally understand the concerns of the residents, but the fact is you have to start planning for the future. Those plans also include beautification of the area, beach creation and more. The plans do not include a tendering port as is being rumoured. That, again, might have been the plan of the SPA back then. This project is still years away," Heyliger said. He added, "Shell has been there for years, Texaco has been there for years, GEBE has been there for years. The time will come, with the development of the island, that expansion, in particular for GEBE, will be necessary. But that expansion or any development in the area will not happen in an ad hoc manner."

Furthermore, Heyliger continued, the land in the area is still owned by the Central Government. "The last time I checked, it was still four Commissioners against one and I am not in the Central Government. The National Alliance is. So if James is so concerned about it, let him lobby his party or the Commissioner he works for, to block it. I intend to bring it to the attention of the leader of the National Alliance and ask him what is going on with his members." He said it was regrettable that James could find his office when it came to government purchasing land from James' family, but not before criticising. "I don't know if he (James) has taken it personally that I told him that government cannot purchase the property for any more than what it has been appraised for by government's appraisers, but if you could find me for that, you could find me for anything else," Heyliger concluded. □

Bonaire referendum week before election

BONAIRE--"Should the direct bond with the Netherlands be a free association instead of integration?" That is the question Bonaire's referendum committee proposed in its 67-page report to the Island Council. The committee suggests January 15 as the date for the referendum, exactly one week before the Antillean Parliament elections. The committee acknowledges the risk that voters in the referendum will be influenced in their choice due to the competition and political campaigns surrounding the Parliament elections. One advantage is that the infrastructure for elections such as polling stations will already be available.

It is unclear whether a referendum on that date could cause a delay in the enactment process regarding the dismantling of the Netherlands Antilles and the establishment of new entities within the Dutch Kingdom.

Other suggested dates for the population consultation were December 11, 2009, and March 19, 2010.

The committee considered the first date, suggested by former commissioner Jeffrey Levenstone (UPB), was too short notice to come up with a thorough information campaign and preparation, which could endanger approval of the referendum by the United Nations.

Levenstone had chosen December 11 because the outcome of the referendum would then be known before December 15, the day on which the Kingdom Council of Ministers will handle the most important instructions for the new status of Bonaire.

Eugene Abdul, who represents the "Awor T'e Ora" (Now's the Time) movement in the committee, had suggested March 19, 2010. Awor T'e Ora has always supported a referendum on short notice, but

this was before the announcement that the Antillean Parliament elections would be held after all.

To have sufficient time for a thorough information campaign, Abdul therefore chose a later date. This also involves the fact that participants will already have made their choices for Parliament, so they can concentrate on making their choices in the referendum.

The committee's objection to March 19 is that that date is later than the ultimate date mentioned by the Island Council (before the elections, ed.).

The referendum question was suggested by Abdul. He stated that at a single glance, this question would create clarity for the population and the elected representatives: Either the direct ties with the Netherlands in the form of an overseas public entity will continue with a choice for integration, or the Island Council will receive a new mandate with the choice for "free association."

With this question "becoming a public entity" implies a choice for "integration" and the choice "free association" (the question implies free association with the Netherlands) is offered as alternative, according to the report.

Committee chairman Lt. Governor Glenn Thodé and Levenstone had proposed another question: "Do you agree with the current interpretation of the direct bond with the Netherlands?" The two committee members said Bonaire had chosen for a direct bond with the Netherlands in 2004 and this interpretation should be considered now.

However, this question was rejected by three to two votes.

According to the committee, the criteria for voting should be as follows: "Only those who have been

resident in Bonaire for five consecutive years 50 days before the date of the referendum, if they have Dutch citizenship and are at least 18 years of age on the date of the referendum."

Non-Dutch citizens can also vote if they have been resident in Bonaire for 10 consecutive years and are at least 18 years of age. This means that the Lt. Governor himself may not vote, as he has been on the island less than five years.

Thodé suggested another criterion that was "closer to the regular voting right for the Parliament of the Netherlands Antilles" where the minimal residence of five years is not applicable. This proposal was rejected, as Thodé and Levenstone were the only ones who supported it.

Other recommendations of the committee include a validity threshold for the referendum with a participation of minimum of 51 per cent of the voting public and the establishment of a "Referendum implementation committee Bonaire 2010" with seven members, an independent headquarters and a full time secretariat. This committee should be responsible for drawing up a budget, providing information, preparing the referendum and arranging the approval of the United Nations.

Furthermore, the Island Council should qualify the referendum in a regulation as either "consultative" or "mandatory" when it comes to implementing the result.

The referendum committee Bonaire 2009 consists of five members: Chairman Thodé, Abdul on behalf of Awor T'e Ora, Aljano Emerenciana as a representative of independent Island Council member Anthony Nicolaas, Levenstone on behalf of UPB, and Ryan Martha on behalf of ADB. □

St. Maarten announces it will build cricket stadium



The Man of the Series, John Eugene accepts his award from Nagico's McSood Amjad and St. Maarten's Sports Commissioner Frans Richardson

CARIBE LUMBER BALLPARK—St. Maarten's sports commissioner, Frans Richardson, announced on Sunday that his government will be building a cricket stadium on St. Maarten. He was speaking at the closing of the Nagico Cricket Tournament at the Caribe Lumber Ballpark in St. Maarten. While commanding the St. Maarten team for reaching the finals of the tournament for the first time, Richardson reiterated that his government believes the island needs a cricket stadium and in the coming months, the plan will be unveiled to St. Maarten. "A cricket stadium must be built...it was a plan we had when myself and Imran

McSood came together and with a preliminary drawing. We will fulfill that promise that we made as a political party," Richardson said. But I want to say to the people that came out, you have shown here that we deserve a cricket stadium on St. Maarten...it shows that the people of St. Maarten loves and supports cricket," he added.

Lt. Governor Franklyn Richards, who was present at the function also endorsed Richardson's announcement noting that for the development of the sport, the players need the tools to prepare themselves. "I stand behind the commissioner as well when he mentioned

that we have to make sure that we give them (the cricketers) all the tools to play cricket on St. Maarten," Richards said. Of course, Chairman of the St. Maarten Cricket Association (SMCA), Imran McSood took note of the dignitaries' comments on the cricket stadium and also endorsed those views. "I believe the commissioner when he says he is going to build a stadium. And I also believe our Lt. Governor when he says that we must equip our players and youth with the right facilities, endorsing the commissioner's statements," McSood said.

The Nagico Cricket One Day Tournament ended on Sunday

with Antigua defeating St. Maarten by six wickets to win its sixth title in the tournament.

St. Maarten made it to the finals of the seven year history of the tournament. □



Soualiga Kids to feature cultural wear in St. Maarten Day parade

~About 750 pupils to depict local heritage in costumes~

PHILIPSBURG--Adding a historic and colourful spectrum to the scheduled cultural parade for St. Maarten/St. Martin's Day will be the Soualiga Kids Foundation with about 750 elementary school pupils parading in St. Maarten/St. Martin's culture wear and depicting local heritage in the form of costumes.

Under the theme "Our Ancestral Pride," pupils of 10 local schools including clients of the Sister Basilia Centre will be decked in folkloric dresses, cultural bags and head pieces, locally made jewellery and costumes remembering the market ladies, fishermen, salt pickers, etc of yesteryear. The Majorettes with their twirling batons will join the pupils as they lead the parade.

This slated cultural parade will feature the various ethnic associations who have been invited to display their cultural wear. This presentation will be folkloric and is expected to be bigger than the cultural parade held in 2007, with many groups already signed up.

According to Patricia Gumbs of Soualiga Kids, the foundation proposed the youth being involved in the cultural parade as a means of them being jointly and actively involved in the day's festivities, rather than carrying out individual activities only at their respective schools.

Therefore children, who don't get the opportunity annually to participate in St. Maarten's Carnival parades for one reason or the other, will have the chance to shine nonetheless during the St. Maarten/St. Martin Day parade.

Sponsors such as Windward Roads and Concrete Cement have so far assisted the foundation in purchasing materials for the costumes which are being made on the island and in Curaçao. Gumbs said the foundation is seeking additional sponsorship and individuals with an artistic edge to assist in designing costumes and their accessories. She noted that bandanas now a day used to associate different "gangs" from each other will be shed in a more positive light, depicting what they were actually designed for in yesteryear.

The foundation is aiming at presenting something spectacular and is encouraging design assistants and children whose school may not have been contacted for participation to sign up with the foundation.

The foundation can be contacted via email at soualigakids@hotmail.com or call foundation members Gumbs at 522-3078 or Taishana McCauley at 523-7204. Registration is possible up until October 20 as all measurements have to be in timely to finish the costumes by the first week in November. □

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TO DRUGS

Aruba TODAY

IYC's Atlantica: A 135-foot Charter for Divers



The Atlantica is among the featured yachts for charter by International Yacht Charters. It is a beautiful 135-footer that is being refitted to pack even more wallop into its onboard amenities for the 2009-10 Caribbean charter season. The yacht is quite utilitarian when it comes to satisfying water-sports enthusiasts in search of ultimate chartering

experiences. The refitting of the Donald Starkey-designed ship, which originally launched in 2000, sleeps 12 in five cabins with additional accommodations for a crew of eight, including a captain, a private chef, and a certified diving expert.

The deck of the Atlantica is comparable to a full-service dive center. The 135-footer is

fully insured for scuba diving, as at least one member of the crew is a certified master diver and another is a certified instructor. A new tender, a 37-foot Intrepid, has also been ordered up to further enhance the joys of scuba diving, snorkeling, fishing, and other water-related activities.

Florida-based shipbuilder Christensen Yachts is at the



Lt. Governor stresses hope and togetherness

~In Diwali message~

PHILIPSBURG—Lt. Governor Franklyn Richards wished the St. Maarten Indian community a happy and enjoyable Diwali. Diwali celebrations kicked off last Saturday and are celebrated for five consecutive days. Diwali is a very important festival for the Indian Hindu community. Also known as the "Festival of Lights," it is a time of year when families, friends and communities come together in a spirit of celebration and joy. It is intended to embrace and welcome everyone, of all races and cultures.

"We are a nation of many nationalities. Diwali

festivities are something to be shared by all. Let this festival and future ones draw us more closely together," the Lt. Governor commented in his Diwali message.

"At the same time, let us reflect on what we have achieved so far for the year and look towards the future with renewed hope. The global community of nations has gone through a period of economic crisis which has also made its impact on our island nation. Let the celebration of Diwali spread hope and togetherness and may it be a good source for all," he continued. □

helm of this mega-yacht refitting. The sky lounge bar has been enlarged, and the onboard entertainment system features new televisions throughout and new equipment by Kaleidoscope and Crestron. There are new appliances throughout, from the saloon to the kitchen to the staterooms; and all the cabinetry has been refurbished. There are new water-sports toys for children, as well as new windsurfing equipment, and more deck space for sunning and lounging have been added.

International Yacht Charters specializes in chartering and managing mega-size yachts. The company has offices in major ports worldwide with locations in Newport, RI, Ft. Lauderdale, and Palm Beach, Fla., Dubai, Monaco, Nassau,



St. Maarten, and the Bahamas. For more information, visit IYC.com □



Carla wins JCI contest

PHILIPSBURG—Learning Unlimited (LU) Preparatory School student Carla Vlaun won the annual Junior Chamber International (JCI) Speech Contest in Bonaire on Saturday. Fourteen-year-old Carla beat a girl from Curaçao in describing the dangers of global warming and solutions to reverse the problem.

"It was a great experience to be in Bonaire ... and it was a great chance to get to know people from the different islands of the Dutch Caribbean," Carla told The Daily Herald. "It was really fun."

Carla won the local JCI contest last week with her speech, which led with a doomsday scenario of climate change destroying civilisation. □

BUSINESS**Aruba TODAY**

Stocks rise as earnings reports top expectations



Specialist Glenn Carell, right, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Monday, Oct. 19, 2009.

By IEVA M. AUGSTUMS

TIM PARADIS,
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK — Investors found a fresh appetite for stocks Monday after a handful of earnings reports revived hopes that the economy is improving.

Industrial equipment maker Eaton Corp. said it was seeing improvement in key markets and raised its full-year profit forecast. Newspaper publisher Gannett Co. managed to post a profit despite a sharp fall in revenue, and toymaker Hasbro Inc.'s income rose on cost cuts.

As earnings reporting gets into full swing this week, investors are relieved to see better results in a broad range of industries following some downbeat news last week from major banks, which reported deepening loan delinquencies as consumers and businesses continue to struggle with paying off their debts.

Technology earnings have come in relatively well so far, with solid reports last week from Google Inc. and leading chipmaker Intel Corp. The market will get a chance to see if that trend will continue after the market closes Monday with reports from Apple Inc. and Texas Instruments Inc.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

Burt White, chief investment officer at LPL Financial in Boston, noted that three of every four companies so far has topped analysts' expectations for earnings in the July-September quarter. White says that's a sign that the economy is doing better than most investors had predicted.

"The recovery is moving faster than analysts can sharpen their pencils and revise their estimates upward," he said.

In late afternoon trading, the Dow Jones industrial average rose 108.75, or 1.1 percent, to 10,104.66, its highest level since Oct. 7 last year.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 11.38, or 1.1 percent, to 1,099.06 and traded above 1,100 for the first time in a year.

The Nasdaq composite index rose 19.20, or 0.9 percent, to 2,176.00. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note fell to 3.40 percent from 3.42 percent late Friday.

Investors grew hopeful that Federal Reserve policymakers would be able to withdraw some of the money supporting the economy as conditions improved. That could help prevent inflation, which has become a concern in the markets because of the

huge amounts of money the government has pumped into the financial system.

The New York Federal Reserve, which carries out the central bank's market operations, said in a statement that it has been preparing plans for how it could begin weaning the economy from monetary stimulus.

The dollar mostly fell against other major currencies, while gold prices rose. The ICE Futures U.S. dollar index, which tracks the dollar against other major currencies, fell 0.3 percent.

Light, sweet crude rose \$1.08 to settle at \$79.61 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Among companies posting earnings, Eaton rose \$3.84, or 6.4 percent, to \$64.26, while Gannett advanced \$1.04, or 8 percent, to \$14.04. Hasbro fell \$1.04, or 3.5 percent, to \$28.48.

Apple fell 70 cents, or 0.4 percent, to \$187.35 ahead of its quarterly report. Texas Instruments rose 55 cents, or 2.4 percent, to \$23.30.

Bob Jergovic, chief investment officer at CLS Investments in Omaha, Neb., said investors are now trying to determine whether a recovery in corporate profits will continue and, if so, whether that will help the overall economy if companies are more willing to hire and make investments.

"We're in that phase where the market has really got to sort it out," he said. "Can we make that handoff from a profit recovery to an economic recovery?"

Three stocks rose for every one that fell on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 733.2 million shares compared with 908.8 million traded at the same point Friday. □



Real estate signs are seen in the front yards of houses in this file photo taken in Maricopa, Arizona in this May 27, 2009 file photo. The Obama administration on Monday launched a new program to aid state and local housing finance agencies in an effort to provide hundreds of thousands of affordable mortgages and develop or rehabilitate tens of thousands of rental properties.

REUTERS/Joshua Lott/Files

Government unveils new mortgage help for states

By ALAN ZIBEL,

AP Real Estate Writer

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration on Monday unveiled a new program to support state and local housing finance agencies. The plan will help the agencies finance mortgages for first-time homebuyers and develop rental housing.

The agencies have had a hard time raising money because of the housing crisis and credit crunch. This year, the agencies sell about \$4 billion in tax-exempt bonds — one-fourth the amount in a typical year. That reduction is limiting the number of people they can assist with loans.

The new program uses mortgage finance companies Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to help fix the financing crunch. The two companies will package mortgages made by the housing agencies and sell them as bonds to the Treasury Department.

"It's an additional layer of assistance to borrowers who are seeking a mortgage at a time when credit is scarce," said Howard Glaser, a mortgage industry consultant in Washington. "It doesn't solve all the problems of the housing market, but every little bit helps."

Officials declined to place a dollar value on the size of the bond program, saying it will be based on demand.

Fannie and Freddie also will help to provide short-term financing for the housing finance agencies, with backing from the Treasury. State and local finance housing finance agencies have pressed for federal help for months.

Treasury Department officials said any losses from loan defaults will be entirely covered by fees paid by the state agencies.

"The expected cost to the federal government is zero," said Michael Barr, an assistant treasury secretary.

The agencies play a relatively small role in the mortgage market, aiding about 100,000 to 200,000 first-time borrowers a year. □

D'oh! Bash marks 'The Simpsons' 20th anniversary



Matt Groening, center, is flanked by people costumed as, from left, Homer Simpson, Bart Simpson, Lisa Simpson, Marge Simpson holding Maggie Simpson arrive at The Simpsons Treehouse of Horror XX & 20th Anniversary Party in the Barker Hangar on Sunday, Oct. 18, 2009, in Santa Monica, CA.

(AP Photo/Alaric Lambert)

By MICHAEL CIDONI,
Associated Press Writer

SANTA MONICA, Calif.
— Forget red.

The arrivals-line carpet leading into Barker Hangar was yellow — appropriate, given the night's honorees: Homer, Bart, Lisa, Marge and Maggie Simpson, all on hand to celebrate 20 years of "The Simpsons." Their series is the longest-running American sitcom, the longest-running American animated program, and it recently surpassed "Gunsmoke" as the longest-running American primetime scripted entertainment program.

"You know, it's really weird," noted Simpsons creator and series executive producer Matt Groening. "I mean, I thought the show would be successful. But the fact that we're still standing here some 20 years later and talking

about it is very peculiar. But very happy."

Brace yourself for another "Simpsons" milestone, as matriarch Marge Simpson appears on the cover of November's Playboy, as well as in a three-page spread for the adult magazine.

"Well, I talked to Marge today," said Al Jean, "The Simpsons" executive producer. "She's a little embarrassed. She wanted people to know the photo is Photoshopped. It's really the body of Wilma Flintstone."

The carpet was crammed with guest stars who've lent their voices to "Simpsons" episodes, including Robert Englund, the actor best known for playing Freddy Kreuger in the "Nightmare on Elm Street" movies, and one who appears eager to see more of Mrs. Simpson. "Marge is hot — big hair and all," he confessed. "And I've loved

(actor) Julie Kavner (who supplies the voice of Marge) since 'Rhoda.' So, I'm glad some manifestation of her is getting to finally show it off." "It is hilarious," added "Star Trek" actor George Takei. "(The Playboy spread) is the kind of thing that makes 'The Simpsons' a perennial. It's going to live long and prosper," he continued, laughing.

Some reporters along the yellow carpet couldn't resist drawing comparisons between "The Simpsons" precocious Bart Simpson and the so-called "Balloon Boy," a 6-year-old who was said to be hiding in the rafters of his family's garage following reports Thursday that he was flying over the plains of Colorado in a giant, homemade helium balloon.

Authorities said Sunday that the story was a hoax concocted to land a reality television show, and the boy's parents, Richard and Mayumi Heene, will likely face felony charges.

"Such a perfect 'Simpsons' episode," commented documentarian Morgan Spurlock, who serves as director of "The Simpsons 20th Anniversary Special in 3-D on Ice," which will air in January. "All of that playing out in real time was so unbelievable. But it's America.

It was American news at its best. We run with something without having all the facts. We turn it into a big lead story. That's what it's all about." □

Birkhead: Prosecutors chastised testimony

By LINDA DEUTSCH,
AP Special Correspondent

LOS ANGELES — The father of Anna Nicole Smith's daughter said Monday a prosecutor suggested that the child was developmentally damaged by Smith's narcotics use and that he should "ramp it up" in his testimony in the drug trial of Smith's former boyfriend.

Larry Birkhead said the prosecutor's remarks outside court before his testimony resumed made him upset, but the judge permitted him to take the stand anyway. Smith's former boyfriend, Howard K. Stern, and two doctors are charged with conspiracy to illegally give controlled substances to the former Playboy Playmate, who died of an accidental overdose

in 2007.

Birkhead said Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney Sarah Slice called him after he testified Friday and suggested he was taking Stern's side in the case.

"I felt the district attorney was frustrated," Birkhead said under questioning by Ellyn Garofalo, the defense lawyer for Dr. Sandeep Kapoor. "She said I should bite my tongue. She then went into a long speech about my daughter, and how there was going to be something wrong with her," Birkhead said.

"She said my daughter is going to be frustrated in learning and I should find something she excels in. She said she had studied the way the brain was made up." □



FILE - In this Oct. 12, 2009 file photo, a clump of Elvis Presley's hair, given to Gary Pepper as president of the Tankers Fan Club to give to Elvis fans, is one of over 200 items in The Gary Pepper Collection of Elvis Presley Memorabilia at Leslie Hindman Auctioneers, in Chicago. The clump of hair was sold for \$15,000 on Sunday Oct. 18, 2009.

(AP Photo/M. Spencer Green)

Elvis' hair sells for \$15K at Chicago auction

CHICAGO — A clump of hair believed to have been trimmed from Elvis Presley's head when he joined the Army in 1958 has sold for \$15,000 at a Chicago auction house.

Also among the 200 Elvis-related items up for grabs at the Leslie Hindman Auctioneers in Chicago on Sunday was a shirt that once belonged to the King which sold for \$52,000.

The buyer of the hair paid \$15,000 plus an additional \$3,300 in auction house fees.

Other items on offer included scarves, photos from the reception of Presley's 1967 wedding to Priscilla, Christmas cards he sent and lots of records. Elvis dolls and Elvis Pez dispensers numbered among the memorabilia.

All the items had belonged to the late Gary Pepper, who ran a fan club and was a friend. Pepper, who had cerebral palsy, died in 1980. □

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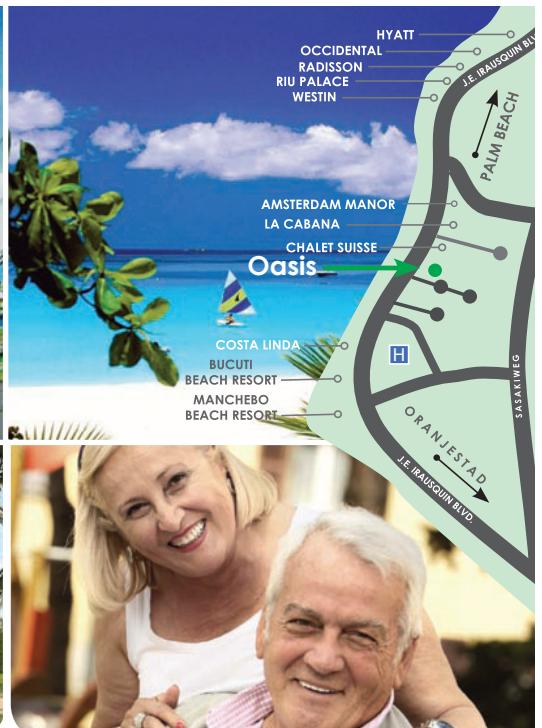
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with granite counter tops and a full stainless steel appliance package including washer and dryer. This 35-condominium complex will feature a beautiful swimming pool with a beach style entry with waterfalls and fountain and state of the art fiber optic lighting. The entrance of the building has a drive-up covered entrance and an elegant two-story lobby leading to the sun-filled hallways and corridors. The common area will facilitate the owners with a well-equipped gym overlooking the gardens and the pool.

The garden will feel like an oasis true to the projects name. There will also be a recreation room and sofas throughout the common area to lounge and relax. Further amenities include a 24/7 security, a full concierge and a rental program for the owners who want to earn a return on their investment. The concierge service will be helpful to assist the owners in making their 'homecoming' a very pleasant return. Each condo will have one designated parking space exclusive to the owners. Construction on Oasis at Eagle

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"fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on

the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35 ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50 ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II", is available for charters on a daily basis from 8am to

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On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

Tuesday, October 20, 2009



Marijuana plants are shown Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2009, in Seattle. The marijuana is distributed to members of a cooperative of medical patients who have received doctor's authorization to use the drug to treat their illnesses, such as AIDS and multiple sclerosis. Unlike several other states which permit marijuana sales to patients, Washington requires patients to grow marijuana themselves or designate a caregiver to grow it for them.

Associated Press

Feds to stop prosecuting medical marijuana users

DEVLIN BARRETT

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Marijuana-smoking patients or their sanctioned suppliers should not be targeted for U.S. prosecution in states that allow medical use of the drug, prosecutors were told Monday in a new policy memo issued by the Justice Department.

Under the policy spelled out in a three-page legal memo, federal prosecutors are being told it is not a good use of their time to arrest people who use or provide medical marijuana in strict compliance with state law.

The guidelines being issued by the department do, however, make it clear that federal agents will go after people whose marijuana distribution goes beyond what is permitted under state law or use medical marijuana as a cover for other crimes.

The memo advises prosecutors they "should not focus federal resources in your states on individuals whose actions are in clear and unambiguous compliance with existing state laws providing for the medical use of marijuana."

The new policy is a significant departure from the Bush administration, which insisted it would continue to enforce federal anti-pot laws regardless of state codes.

"It will not be a priority to use federal resources to prosecute patients with serious illnesses

or their caregivers who are complying with state laws on medical marijuana, but we will not tolerate drug traffickers who hide behind claims of compliance with state law to mask activities that are clearly illegal," Attorney General Eric Holder said in a statement.

Fourteen states allow some use of marijuana for medical purposes, among them California. California stands out for the widespread presence of dispensaries — businesses that sell marijuana and even advertise their services. Colorado also has several dispensaries, and Rhode Island and New Mexico are in the process of licensing providers, according to the Marijuana Policy Project, a group that promotes the decriminalization of marijuana use. Holder said in March that he wanted federal law enforcement officials to pursue those who violate both federal and state law, but it has not been clear how that goal would be put into practice.

The memo spelling out the policy was sent Monday to federal prosecutors in the 14 states, and also to top officials at the FBI and Drug Enforcement Administration.

The memo written by Deputy Attorney General David Ogden emphasizes that prosecutors have wide discretion in choosing which cases to pursue, and says it is not a good use of federal manpower to prosecute those who are without a doubt in compliance with state law. □

Study: National Park Service averages 11 searches per day

MIKE STARK,

Associated Press Writer

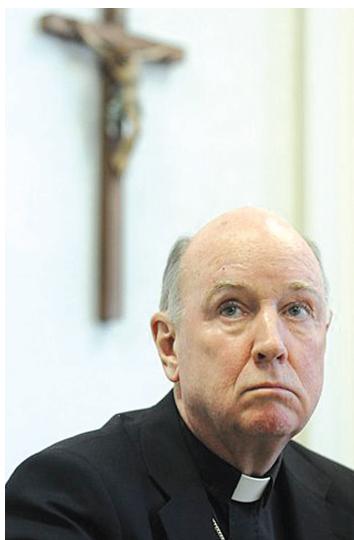
SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A new study says U.S. national parks launch 11 search-and-rescue operations on an average day.

Travis Heggie, an assistant professor at the University of North Dakota who headed up the study, analyzed search-and-rescue reports from 1992 to 2007, when there were more than 65,000 operations in national parks with costs exceeding \$58 million.

Those most commonly in need of help? Day hikers, young men and boaters. Weekends were the busiest.

The results are similar to an earlier analysis by Heggie of national parks in Utah, which found young men on day hikes were among the most likely to need a rescue. □

Bankruptcy filing delays church sex abuse case



Rev. W. Francis Malooly, bishop of Delaware's Catholic Diocese of Wilmington, listens to a question during a news conference Monday, Oct. 19, 2009 at the diocese headquarters in Wilmington, Del. The diocese filed for federal bankruptcy protection late Sunday, delaying a sex abuse trial that had been set to start Monday in Kent County Superior Court, the first of eight Catholic Church abuse trials scheduled in Delaware.

Associated Press

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Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Electoral Complaints Commission



Chairman of the U.N.-backed Electoral Complaints Commission Grant Kippen speaks during an interview with The Associated Press in Kabul, Afghanistan, Monday, Oct. 19, 2009. Two international officials familiar with the investigation by the U.N.-backed Electoral Complaints Commission told The Associated Press that the findings showed President Karzai falling below the 50 percent threshold needed to avoid a runoff with his chief rival, former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah.

Associated Press

See Page B5

U.S. sets new policy to nudge Sudan toward peace

ROBERT BURNS

AP National Security Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration, after months of fierce internal debate, outlined a new approach Monday to settling the conflicts in Sudan, asserting a moral obligation to end “a vast sea of human misery” and a need to prevent the African nation from serving as a haven for terrorists.

The new policy rests on offering incentives for the Sudanese government to end the violence and threatening stronger pressures if it does not. While emphasizing the role of diplomacy, it is a less accommodating approach than the White House’s own special envoy to Sudan, Scott Gration, had been advocating.

President Barack Obama issued a statement saying the U.S. and international community must act “with a sense of urgency and purpose” to seek an end to conflict, human rights abuses and genocide in Sudan’s Darfur region. While promising a diplomatic push, he also said he would renew existing sanctions on Sudan this week.

U.S. humanitarian groups embraced the new policy with varying degrees of enthusiasm. Some questioned why it took so long to craft.

“With an administration that is unified in its commitment to these priorities and to leading the international community in active engagement on all of these fronts, we believe that lasting peace in Sudan is well within reach,” said Ruth Messinger, president of the American Jewish World Service, a human rights group.

Jerry Fowler, president of the private Save Darfur Coalition, said the president had put his administration



In this Thursday, April 2, 2009 file photo, U.S. special envoy to Sudan J. Scott Gration arrives at the Sudanese foreign ministry for meetings with officials after his arrival in Khartoum, Sudan. The Obama administration plans to roll out a new policy toward Sudan with an eye toward engaging the government in Khartoum but also warning that continued violence in Darfur will result in penalties, U.S. officials said Friday, Oct. 16, 2009.

back on course to a more effective policy, but he said Obama must become personally engaged.

“We need to see substantial personal involvement from President Obama; his presidency is the game-changer here,” Fowler said. John Prendergast, head of an anti-genocide program at the Center for American Progress, a think tank, called the Obama policy balanced and encouraged but added, “It’s meaningless until implemented.”

The new policy was announced in a joint appearance at the State Department by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, U.N. ambassador Susan Rice and Gration. Obama was not present. Clinton stressed that the administration realizes the difficulty of the effort and the need for international coordination.

“Sitting on the sidelines is not an option,” Clinton said. “It is up to us and our partners in the international community to make a concerted and sustained effort to help bring lasting peace and stability to Sudan and avoid more of the conflict that has produced a vast sea of human misery and squandered the potential and security of a vital region of the world.”

Rice stressed that the unspecified incentives Washington could offer will have to be earned.

“There will be no rewards for the status quo, no incentives without concrete and tangible progress,” Rice said. “There will be significant consequences for parties that backslide or simply stand still.”

Gration, a retired Air Force major general, has been at odds with Rice by arguing in public for a less strict line

toward President Omar al-Bashir, whom Gration sees as the key to resolving the situation in Darfur.

The International Criminal Court issued an international arrest warrant against al-Bashir last March. He is the first sitting head of state to be charged with war crimes and crimes against humanity by the world’s first permanent war crimes tribunal since it was established in 2002. The court accused him of orchestrating a campaign of murder, torture, rape and forced expulsions in Sudan’s western Darfur region, but said there was insufficient evidence to merit charging him with genocide.

Under the new Obama policy, U.S. officials will not talk directly with al-Bashir but will have contacts with others in his government to discuss peace for Darfur and implementation of a 2005 provisional peace

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deal between the partially autonomous southern Sudan and the Khartoum government in the north.

Al-Bashir’s government is designated a “state sponsor of terrorism” by the State Department.

Obama said that while working for peace in Sudan, his administration also will “work aggressively to ensure that Sudan does not provide a safe haven for international terrorists.”

Clinton also cited the threat of terrorism.

“An unstable Sudan not only jeopardizes the future of the 40 million people there,” she said. “It can also be an incubator of violence and instability in an already volatile region, it can provide a safe haven for international terrorists, and trigger another humanitarian catastrophe that Sudan, its neighbors, and the world cannot afford.”

In Khartoum, Ghazi Salah Eddin Atabani, a senior adviser to al-Bashir and the government’s point man on Darfur, appeared on Sudanese TV and contrasted the new U.S. policy with its more “extremist” past.

“We hope that this will end the debate among U.S. officials and we hope that now they will think with one mind and speak with one tongue,” he said.

Atabani also said that while the U.S. policy showed “an important development” by staying away from spelling out new sanctions, he said it was regrettable that the administration still refers to genocide in Darfur.

The Darfur conflict began in February 2003 when ethnic African rebels took up arms against the Arab-dominated Sudanese government in Khartoum, claiming discrimination and neglect. U.N. officials say the war has claimed at least 300,000 lives from violence, disease and displacement. □



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Pentagon scientist arrested on spy charge

LARRY MARGASAK

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)

— A scientist credited with helping discover evidence of water on the moon was arrested Monday on charges of attempting to pass along classified information to an FBI agent posing as an Israeli intelligence officer.

The Justice Department said Stewart David Nozette, 52, of suburban Chevy Chase, Maryland, was charged in a criminal complaint with attempting to communicate, deliver and transmit classified information to an individual he believed to be an Israeli intelligence officer.

The complaint does not allege that the government of Israel or anyone acting on its behalf violated U.S. law.

In Jerusalem, where the story broke late at night, Israeli government officials had no immediate comment.

Nozette was arrested Monday by FBI agents. He is expected to make his initial appearance in federal court in Washington on Tuesday.

In an affidavit supporting the complaint that was unsealed Monday, FBI agent Leslie Martell said that on Sept. 3, Nozette received a telephone call from an individual purporting to be an Israeli intelligence officer. The caller was an undercover FBI agent.

Nozette agreed to meet with the agent later that day at a hotel in Washington and in the subsequent meeting the two discussed Nozette's willingness to work for Israeli intelligence.

Nozette allegedly informed the agent that he had, in the past, held top security clearances and had access to U.S. satellite information, the affidavit said.

Nozette also was alleged to have said he would be willing

to answer questions about this information in exchange for money. The affidavit said the agent explained that the Israeli intelligence agency, Mossad, would arrange for a communication system so Nozette could pass on information in a post office box.

Nozette agreed to provide regular, continuing information and asked for an Israeli passport, the government alleged.

The affidavit then alleged this sequence of events:

— Sept. 4. Nozette and the agent met again in the same hotel. The scientist allegedly said that while he no longer had legal access to any classified information at a U.S. government facility, he could, nonetheless, recall classified information by memory. Nozette allegedly asked when he could expect to receive his first payment, saying he preferred cash amounts "under ten thousand" so he would not have to report it. (U.S. anti-money laundering laws require that all transactions of \$10,000 or more must be reported to the Internal Revenue Service, the tax collection agency.)

Nozette allegedly told the agent, "Well, I should tell you my first need is that they should figure out how to pay me ... They don't expect me to do this for free."

— Sept. 10. Undercover FBI agents left a letter in the designated post office box, asking Nozette to answer a list of questions about U.S. satellite information. The agents provided a \$2,000 cash payment. Serial numbers of the bills were recorded.

— Sept. 16. Nozette was captured on videotape leaving a manila envelope in the post office box. The next day, agents retrieved the sealed envelope and found,

among other things, a one-page document containing answers to the questions and an encrypted computer thumb drive.

One answer contained information, classified as secret, that concerned capabilities of a prototype overhead collection system.

— Sept. 17. Agents left a second letter in the post office box with another list of questions about U.S. satellite information. The FBI also left a cash payment of \$9,000. Nozette allegedly retrieved the questions and the money the same day.

— Oct. 1. Nozette was videotaped leaving a manila envelope in the post office box. FBI agents retrieved it and found a second set of answers. The responses contained information classified as both top secret and secret, involving U.S. satellites, early warning systems, means of defense or retaliation against large-scale attack, communications intelligence information, and major elements of defense strategy.

Nozette had worked in varying jobs for the Department of Energy, the National Aeronautics and Space, and in the National Space Council in the president's office in 1989 and 1990.

He developed the Clementine bistatic radar experiment that purportedly discovered water on the south pole of the moon. He worked from approximately 1990 to 1999 at the Department of Energy's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California, where he designed highly advanced technology.

At the Department of Energy, Nozette held a special security clearance equivalent to the Defense Department top secret and "critical nuclear weapon design information"

Where did you grow up? Where do you live now? I grew up in Chicago, Illinois (West Rogers Park), and currently live in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

How did you get interested in space exploration? I was born in 1957, the year of Sputnik, grew up during the Apollo years, and always had an interest in space exploration and strong science aptitude. The works of Gerard K. O'Neill, which appeared during my high school years in the early 1970s, encouraged my consideration of space exploration as a career. Up until that time I was planning to go to medical school, I was strongly encouraged by many influential people during my undergraduate years and finally closed off my medical option during my sophomore year, much to the benefit of my future patients (many people have told me).

What is your educational background? I have a B.S. in geosciences with honors and distinction from the University of Arizona (1979), and a Ph.D. in planetary science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1983).

What are your hobbies? I used to fly and scuba dive when I was younger but have not been as active recently. Now I enjoy cooking and listening to The Grateful Dead Channel on Sirius satellite radio.

What's your job on Mini-RF? I am the principal investigator/co-investigator, so I act to oversee and document the scientific aspects of the program and translate these requirements into specific actions for the engineers and operators.

What has been the most exciting aspect of working on Mini-RF? Seeing it come to fruition after many years of thought and work. I conceived the idea of Mini-RF in 1994 while working as the deputy program manager and chief scientist of the Clementine mission, so returning to the moon with this capability is very satisfying.

What are you looking forward to the most as Mini-RF begins its lunar exploration? Finally seeing what's at the bottom of the permanently shadowed polar craters.

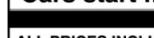
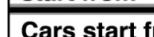
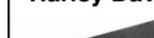
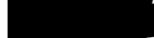
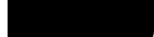
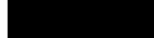
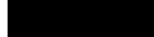
This screen shot taken from NASA's web site shows Stewart Nozette. Nozette, a scientist who worked for the Defense Department, a White House space council and other agencies including NASA was arrested Monday Oct. 19, 2009 on charges of attempting to pass along classified information to an FBI agent posing as an Israeli intelligence officer.

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clearances. Department of Energy clearances apply to access to information specifically relating to atomic or nuclear-related materials.

Nozette also held top offices at the Alliance for Competitive Technology, a nonprofit corporation that he organized in March 1990. □

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Shunned Illinois senator suddenly becomes relevant



Sen. Roland Burris, D-Ill., is interviewed by the Associated Press in his Capitol Hill office in Washington, Thursday, Oct. 15, 2009. The Illinois Democrat, appointed by disgraced former Gov. Rod Blagojevich, says he'll only vote for a bill to provide health care to millions more Americans as long as it allows the government to sell insurance in competition with private insurers.

By LAURIE KELLMAN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — For Democrats determined to get a health care bill, Sen. Roland Burris is like the house guest who couldn't be refused, won't soon be leaving and poses a plausible threat of ruining holiday dinner. Suddenly, he can no longer be ignored. The Illinois Democrat, appointed by disgraced former Gov. Rod Blagojevich, says he'll only vote for a bill to

provide health care to millions more Americans as long as it allows the government to sell insurance in competition with private insurers.

And he says he won't compromise. "I would not support a bill that does not have a public option," Burris, 72, said in a recent interview with The Associated Press. "That position will not change."

Those words caught the attention of the very

Democratic leaders who tried to keep Burris out of the Senate, suggested he resign and have shunned him in unprecedented fashion. Burris is not the only Democrat to insist on creation of a government-run health plan. But he is the one who has the least to lose by defying President Barack Obama and the Democrats who once turned him out in the cold rain. It was early January and Blagojevich had appointed Burris, a former Illinois attorney general, to Obama's former Senate seat — defying Democrats in Washington who had wanted someone without a tainted patron and with a better chance of winning election in 2010.

What happened next was a procession of ugly images, from Burris' rain-swept news conference after Democrats turned him away from a swearing-in to Illinois Rep. Bobby Rush daring Democrats to block an accomplished lawyer who would be the chamber's only black.

Bitterly, the Democrats seated Burris. But when it came out that Burris had admitted what

he had denied under oath — that he'd unsuccessfully tried to raise money for Blagojevich — Majority Whip Richard Durbin, D-Ill., suggested that Burris resign. He refused.

A Senate ethics committee probe is pending into Burris' statements. Democratic leaders, meanwhile, refused to support any effort by Burris to seek a full term, and he will leave the Senate in 2011.

Meanwhile, his relationship with the rest of his caucus has settled into one of mutual, if chilly, benefit.

It works this way: Burris stays mum about any bitterness he may feel about his reception, and he gets Obama's Senate seat for two years. Democrats seat him, don't speak of him and can count on his loyal vote at a time when all 58 Democrats

and two independents must vote together to prevent Republican filibusters.

They've never needed 60 votes like they do on the yet-to-be-finalized health care bill. A disciplined grin shows that Burris knows it.

No, he says, he will not vote for any version of a government-run plan circulating in the Senate, other than the full-blown one from the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee.

He won't vote, for example, for Republican Sen. Olympia Snowe's idea to use the threat of a public option to force insurers to lower premiums by certain deadlines. He hasn't seen the details of another idea, proposed by Sen. Tom Carper, D-Del., that would allow each state to decide whether to offer public coverage to compete with private insurers. The health committee's proposal, he says, must be in the final bill to earn his vote.

"Yeah, that's the one," Burris said.

By definition, all 100 senators are relevant because any one can block Senate business unless there are 60 votes to override the objection. But Burris' stated position on the public option means that Democrats can no longer take his vote for granted.

It's too early to tell whether the public option, or some version of it, ends up in the

final compromise between a committee of House and Senate lawmakers. First, each chamber must pass its version of a health care bill. House Democrats are insisting on the government-run plan; but in the Senate, the public option is less popular.

Every Democratic vote is important. And yet, Democratic leaders aren't talking about Burris.

Instead, they're talking confidently about having the votes for the biggest policy overhaul in a generation, a signature issue for Obama and the Democratic Party.

Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont., said Burris' demand alone makes him no different than other senators seeking this or that in the bill.

"I will do what I can to address the thoses and thaths," Baucus said. "But my strong feeling is in the end, the need for health care reform is to get 60 votes (and) is going to trump the concerns that some might have."

For his part, Burris says he's just representing the wishes of his state. And he's relentlessly loyal to the arrangement. His only acknowledgment of being treated differently than others is a reference to the "distractions" that marked his first weeks in office.

Ask him whether he feels badly treated by the leaders, and he'll answer with a question:

"By whose standard?"

Go a couple more rounds, and he'll elaborate, generally.

"I feel that I've had great opportunities here," Burris said. "I feel like anytime I had a question that needed answered, anytime I needed something, there was certainly assistance there."

Does he feel respected and listened-to? Burris pauses and looks puzzled.

"Yes. I'm a senator from Illinois representing 13 million people. I'm one of 100, and I speak on the floor, I preside over the Senate, I co-sponsor legislation," he says. "I'm very busy, I'm very challenged, and I have one problem."

He grins.

"I enjoy what I'm doing." □

White House: Burden on Afghans to show legitimacy

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House on Monday prodded Afghanistan's leadership to prove to their people and to the watching world that the results of an intensely disputed presidential election are legitimate.

That reaction came as U.N.-backed fraud investigators on Monday threw out nearly a third President Hamid Karzai's votes from the country's August election, setting the stage for a runoff between him and his top challenger. It was unclear whether the Afghan-led Independent Election Commission would accept the findings of the fraud panel and announce a runoff, and a delay in forming a new government could hamper a U.S.-led effort to combat a growing Taliban insurgency. White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said he would not get ahead of the election review process, but he pointedly framed some expectations.

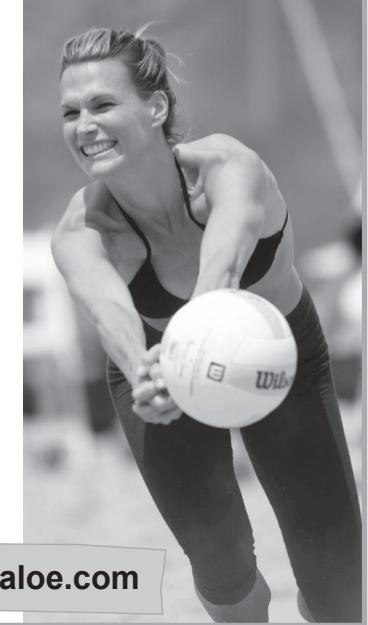
"It's going to be incredibly important for the world to see that Afghan leaders are willing to make this process legitimate, and that's the process that we're encouraging," Gibbs told reporters. "And I think it's now up to the Afghans to make this legitimate." He declined

to comment on the impact if Karzai does not fully cooperate, saying he did not want to get "too far down the hypothetical highway." President Barack Obama is leading a lengthy review of the war strategy in Afghanistan. The White House has also said no decision on sending more U.S. troops to Afghanistan would be made before the election crisis is resolved — a stance reiterated by the civilian chief of the NATO military alliance on Monday. "None of this is going to work without credible partners," Gibbs added. "We certainly understand that in this entire process." Two international officials familiar with a new investigation by the U.N.-backed Electoral Complaints Commission told The Associated Press that the findings showed Karzai falling below the 50 percent threshold needed to avoid a runoff with his chief rival, former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah. Preliminary results released last month showed Karzai winning the Aug. 20 election with more than 54 percent. However, allegations of voter coercion and ballot box-stuffing prompted the fraud investigation and held up a final proclamation of a winner. □



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Bankruptcy filing delays church sex abuse case

RANDALL CHASE

Associated Press Writer

WILMINGTON, Delaware (AP) — A bankruptcy filing by the Catholic Diocese of Wilmington was the best way to ensure reconciliation and compensation for all victims of clergy sexual abuse in the diocese, the bishop said Monday.

The diocese filed for bankruptcy protection late Sunday after settlement negotiations failed with 13 alleged victims, including eight whose trials were scheduled to begin. More than 100 other alleged victims were pursuing compensation outside the courts.

"It was clear to us in our negotiations that the amount of money that was being sought by the early victims and the finite amount that we had ... was not going to work," the Rev. W. Francis Malooly, the bishop of the diocese, said at a news conference Monday.

Malooly said an excessive settlement or jury award for a handful of victims who would receive "a much bigger piece of the pie" would have been unfair for other victims.

The bankruptcy filing came on the eve of a trial scheduled to begin Monday that would have been the first under a Delaware law that created a two-year "lookback" window allowing claims of abuse to be brought even if the statute of limitations had expired. More than 100 lawsuits were filed before the window closed this summer, with four being settled.

The first eight cases scheduled for trial involve lawsuits

against former priest Francis DeLuca. DeLuca served as a priest for 35 years but was defrocked last summer after having been jailed in 2007 in New York for repeatedly molesting his grandnephew. He is one of about 20 priests against whom the diocese has substantiated allegations of child sexual abuse.

Anthony Flynn, an attorney for the diocese, said he thought a settlement had been reached with the eight plaintiffs, along with five other alleged victims of DeLuca, but the deal unraveled late Sunday.

"We thought we had an agreement, frankly. ... It fell through at the last minute," Flynn said.

Under federal bankruptcy rules, the filing automatically delays all litigation against the diocese. Robert Brady, the diocese bankruptcy attorney, said he expected the plaintiffs to ask a judge to lift that delay.

Diocese representatives said they hope the bankruptcy case results in a uniform process for compensating abuse victims, but Flynn said no decision has been made on a specific plan. Malooly described the decision to seek bankruptcy protection as a painful one he had hoped never to make. But he said the diocese had a "moral obligation" to work toward healing and fair compensations for all victims.

The Wilmington diocese, which serves about 230,000 Catholics in Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland, is the seventh U.S. Catholic diocese to seek bankruptcy protection since the church



Rev. W. Francis Malooly, bishop of Delaware's Catholic Diocese of Wilmington, arrives for a news conference Monday, Oct. 19, 2009 at the diocese headquarters in Wilmington, Del. The diocese filed for federal bankruptcy protection late Sunday, delaying a sex abuse trial that had been set to start Monday in Kent County Superior Court, the first of eight Catholic Church abuse trials scheduled in Delaware.

Associated Press

abuse scandal erupted seven years ago in Boston.

Thomas Neuberger, an attorney representing 88 alleged victims in Delaware, described the bankruptcy filing as a "desperate effort to hide the truth from the public and conceal the thousands of pages of scandalous documents."

The diocese has paid more than \$6.2 million since 2002 to settle claims of sexual abuse. The bankruptcy filing lists the diocese's assets as being between \$50 million and \$100 million but said its estimated

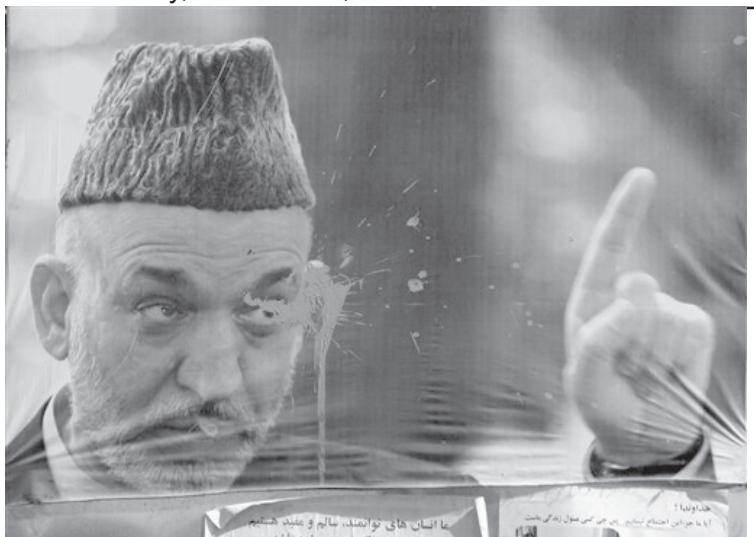
debt is between \$100 million and \$500 million. Lawsuit plaintiffs as well as banks and pensions were listed as creditors. Other dioceses that have sought bankruptcy protection in abuse scandals are Davenport, Iowa; Fairbanks, Alaska; Portland, Oregon; San Diego; Spokane, Washington; and Tucson, Arizona. The San Diego case was dismissed. At least four bankruptcy cases ended with payments for victims. In May 2008, the Davenport diocese agreed to pay \$37 million to more than

150 people. A \$50 million settlement in 2007 involving about 175 lawsuits ended a bankruptcy filing by the Portland archdiocese, which set aside another \$20 million for future claims.

The Tucson diocese emerged from bankruptcy in 2005 after creating a fund of more than \$20 million for people molested by clergy. The Catholic Diocese of Spokane settled by offering to pay victims \$48 million that it is raising through sale of assets and by donations. □



**"FAVI FUNDACION
CU VISION"**



A defaced and torn election poster of Afghan President Hamid Karzai, who's also a presidential candidate in last August's vote, is seen in Kabul, Afghanistan on Monday, Oct. 19, 2009. The Afghan electoral crisis intensified Monday as officials responsible for declaring final results from the August presidential ballot refused to accept findings of a U.N.-backed investigative panel that would force a runoff, those involved in the process said.

Associated Press

HEIDI VOGT
ROBERT H. REID
Associated Press Writers
KABUL (AP) — U.N.-backed

fraud investigators on Monday threw out nearly a third of President Hamid Karzai's votes from the August election,

U.N.-backed panel confirms massive Afghan fraud

undercutting his claim of victory and stepping up the pressure for him to accept a runoff.

U.S. President Barack Obama's administration has been holding off on a decision to send more troops to Afghanistan until a credible government is installed in Kabul.

Both U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon signaled on Monday that a resolution was near. Clinton said Karzai planned to announce his intentions on Tuesday, adding that she was "encouraged at the direction the situation is moving."

A spokeswoman for Ban said he spoke with Karzai and the Afghan leader assured him he will "fully respect" the constitutional process even if it means a runoff against his top challenger, former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah.

The findings by the Electoral Complaints Commission dropped Karzai's votes to 48 percent of the total, below the 50 percent threshold needed for him to avoid a runoff, according to calculations by independent election monitors.

Still, it was uncertain whether the Afghan-led Independent Election Commission, which is dominated by Karzai supporters, would accept the findings and announce a second round.

Karzai campaign spokesman Waheed Omar said the Karzai camp was waiting for the election commission to formally certify the U.N.-backed panel's findings, thereby giving them the force of law. Although short of an unequivocal pledge to accept a run-off, the statement appeared to represent a step in that direction after days of outright rejection.

Karzai's camp had complained about the panel of three foreigners and two Afghans which conducted the fraud investigation, saying foreigners were unfairly influencing the outcome.

Last week Karzai aides suggested he might contest the findings, setting off a series of last-minute diplomatic efforts, including visits by U.S. Sen. John Kerry, a Democrat and chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, as well as telephone calls by Clinton and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

Karzai met again late Monday with Kerry and U.S. Ambassador Karl Eikenberry to discuss the standoff.

The two-month election crisis threatens to undermine the Obama administration's Afghan strategy at a time when public support for the eight-year war is declining in the U.S. and the Taliban-led insurgents are gaining strength. The White House says Obama will not decide whether to send thousands more U.S. troops to Afghanistan until the political crisis is resolved.

Preliminary results released last month showed Karzai winning more than 54 percent of the vote in the 36-candidate race. However, proclamation of a Karzai victory was withheld until the U.N.-backed commission finished its investigation into widespread fraud allegations.

The inquiry was concluded last week, but the panel withheld releasing the findings while talks were held with the Karzai-dominated election commission that must certify the results and order any runoff.

The U.N.-backed panel decided to release its report Monday after the Afghan commissioners kept insisting on changes that would show Karzai winning outright. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue.

Abdullah campaign spokesman Fazel Sancharaki welcomed the fraud panel's findings as "a step forward" and said the election commission had no choice but to call a runoff.

Afghans close to Karzai said the president feared the runoff was part of an Obama administration plan to oust

him — a charge the U.S. has repeatedly denied. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not supposed to speak for Karzai. Afghan officials say they can organize a runoff in about two weeks, which is close to the start of winter. After the first snows fall in the high mountain passes, it will become all but impossible to hold an election until the spring. A second round vote would also run the risk of Taliban attacks on voters similar to those carried out during the first ballot. For those reasons, Western diplomats have urged the two sides to reach a power-sharing agreement which would avoid a new vote and bring an end to the crisis. Former U.S. Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad and others held a series of weekend talks with the rival camps on a possible power-sharing deal.

Officials familiar with the talks, speaking on condition of anonymity because the discussions were confidential, said both sides were open to the power-sharing idea but were far apart on details. Karzai has said he would be willing to offer posts to the opposition in a new government — which falls short of a real coalition with clearly defined powers. After the auditors' findings were released, U.N. spokesman Aleem Siddique said a runoff "isn't optional."

"It's a requirement of Afghan electoral law, and we expect the institutions of this country to follow the law to the letter," he said.

The U.S. Embassy called on the election commission "to implement these orders with all due speed."

Grant Kippen, the Canadian who heads the fraud panel, said he did not see any legal way for the election commission to reject the findings.

"Our decisions, our orders, are final and binding according to the law," Kippen said. "We've followed the law very clearly, very precisely. My sense is that the IEC is going to follow the law as well." □

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PG-13	G:I: JOE: THE RISE OF THE COBRA	daily: 1:00	6:00	8:30	late show: 11:00	
R	FINAL DESTINATION 4	daily: 12:45	8:15	10:15	late show: 12:15	3D
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Iran: US, Britain, Pakistan linked to militants

ALI AKBAR DAREINI

Associated Press Writer

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — The chief of Iran's powerful Revolutionary Guard accused the United States, Britain and Pakistan on Monday of having links with Sunni militants responsible for a suicide bombing that killed five senior Guard commanders and 37 others.

Iran's president said those behind Sunday's bombing are hiding across the border in Pakistan, and in a phone call with his Pakistani counterpart on Monday he demanded their arrest.

The accusations put some strain on the normally close relationship between Iran and Pakistan, which have had differences over the issue of Islamic extremism in the past. Monday's statements marked the first time Iran has publicly accused its neighbor's intelligence service of supporting the Sunni rebel group known as Jundallah, or Soldiers of God.

The claims of U.S. and British interference came as those two nations were taking part in talks with Iranian officials over the country's nuclear program in Vienna. The accusations, however, were not expected to complicate the talks.

Jundallah, which emerged in 2002 in Iran's remote and mountainous southeast, has waged a low-level insurgency there to protest what it says is government persecution of the Baluchi ethnic minority. Baluchis follow the Sunni branch of Islam and are a minority in predominantly Shiite, Persian Iran.

A claim of responsibility in the name of the group was posted Monday on an Islamic Web site that usually publishes al-Qaida statements. The posting, whose authenticity could not be verified, made no mention of any assistance from foreign powers.

The group has carried out sporadic kidnappings and attacks in recent years — including targeting the Revolutionary Guard and Shiite civilians. In Sunday's attack, a suicide bomber with explosives strapped around his waist struck as senior

Guard commanders were entering a sports complex to meet tribal leaders to discuss Sunni-Shiite cooperation in the Pishin district near the Pakistani border.

Revolutionary Guard chief Gen. Mohammad Ali Jafari vowed Monday to deliver a "crushing" response.

"New evidence has been obtained proving the link between yesterday's terrorist attack and the U.S., British and Pakistani intelligence services," state TV quoted Jafari as saying.

He said the attack was "undoubtedly" planned and ordered by the three nation's intelligence services and that a delegation would soon travel to Pakistan to present evidence.

Iran often accuses Western countries, especially the U.S., of stoking unrest among the country's religious and ethnic minorities — allegations those nations have denied. Iran has also claimed that Jundallah receives support from al-Qaida and Taliban militants who operate across the border in Pakistan's Baluchistan province, where Baluchi nationalists have been waging a militant campaign for independence from the Pakistani government.

Iran's Jundallah, by contrast, does not appear to seek independence, but rather improved rights for the area's Baluchi people. In 2007, the group adopted a more secular name, the Iranian Popular Resistance Movement, and said it did not depend entirely on armed struggle, but also on political and peaceful efforts to achieve Baluchi rights. The group is still widely referred to by its previous name.

Several analysts who have studied Jundallah say the group likely receives inspiration and material support from Baluchi nationalists in Pakistan. But they say there is little evidence of an operational relationship between Jundallah and militants, including al-Qaida and the Taliban, that operate across the border.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad had harsh words Monday for his Pakistani counterpart, Asif Ali Zardari.

"The presence of terrorist elements in Pakistan is not justifiable and the Pakistani government needs to help arrest and punish the criminals as soon as possible," state TV quoted Ahmadinejad as telling Zardari.

"We've heard that some officers in Pakistan cooperate with the main elements behind such terrorist attacks and we consider it our right to demand these criminals from them," he was quoted as saying.

Zardari telephoned Ahmadinejad to strongly condemn the suicide attack, said a statement from the Pakistani president's office. President Zardari said the incident was "gruesome and barbaric" and bore the "signatures of a cowardly enemy on the run."

He said both Pakistan and Iran have deep historical ties and he pledged that Pakistan will continue to support and cooperate with Iran in curbing militancy and fighting extremism and terrorism.

In a sign of how heated the situation has become, an Iranian lawmaker representing the capital of Iran's southeastern Sistan-Baluchistan Province called on the Guard to carry out military operations inside Pakistan to root out militants. It's unclear whether such an operation would be considered.

In the Internet claim of responsibility, a statement in the name of Jundallah said the attack was carried out in "retaliation for the Iranian regime's crimes against the unarmed people of Baluchistan."

The statement also identified the man it said carried out the attack as Abdel-Wahed Mohammadi Sarawani, suggesting he is from the small town of Sarawan, 25 miles (40 kilometers) from the Pakistani border. It also accused the Iranian government of executing many people merely because they are Sunnis or Baluchis.

In May, Jundallah said it sent a suicide bomber into a Shiite mosque in the southeastern city of Zahedan, killing 25 worshippers.

Sunday's attack, however, would mark the



In this undated photo provided by the semi-official Iranian Fars News Agency, Deputy commander of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard's ground force, Gen. Noor Ali Shooshtari is seen. A suicide bomber killed a number of senior commanders of the elite Revolutionary Guard and at least 15 others in an area of southeastern Iran that has been at the center of a simmering Sunni insurgency, state media reported Sunday, Oct. 18, 2009. The official IRNA news agency said the dead included the deputy commander of the Guard's ground force, Gen. Noor Ali Shooshtari.

Associated Press

group's highest-level target. The victims included the deputy commander of the Guard's ground forces, Gen. Noor Ali Shooshtari, as well as a chief provincial Guard commander, Rajab Ali Mohammadzadeh. The others killed were Guard members or tribal leaders, it said.

Funerals were held Monday in Zahedan and Pishin for many of those killed, state media reports said. State TV broadcast images of thousands of mourners and coffins being placed on the backs of trucks. Some local Sunni tribal leaders condemned the attack and appealed for unity between Sunnis and Shiites. □



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Diplomats: 1st day of Iran nuke talks inconclusive



Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, Mohamed ElBaradei, front, arrives for a meeting of delegates from Iran, the U.S. Russia and France, on Monday, Oct. 19, 2009, at Vienna's International Center. The talks between the nations focus on a technical issue with huge strategic ramifications, whether Iran is ready to farm out some of its uranium enrichment program to a foreign country. Others are not identified.

Associated Press

GEORGE JAHN

Associated Press Writer

VIENNA (AP) — A first day of talks to get Iran to send most of its enriched uranium abroad — and thus delay its potential to make a nuclear weapon — ended inconclusively Monday, with Tehran remaining uncommitted, diplomats told The Associated Press. International Atomic Energy Agency chief Mohamed ElBaradei said the negotiations between Iran and the U.S., Russia and France got off to a “good start.” However, three diplomats, who

were familiar with the discussions, suggested little was accomplished outside of both sides outlining their positions.

Iran had signaled going into the meeting that it would not meet Western demands for a deal under which it would ship most of its enriched material out of the country. Tehran has said it needs enriched uranium for nuclear fuel. The West fears it could be used to make weapons, and the U.S. says Iran is one to six years away from being able to do so.

The talks were focused on a technical issue with

huge strategic ramifications — whether Iran is ready to farm out some of its uranium enrichment program to a foreign country.

ElBaradei appeared cautiously optimistic after the closed meetings, saying most technical issues had been discussed and the parties would meet again Tuesday morning.

“We have had this afternoon quite a constructive meeting,” ElBaradei told reporters. “We are off to a good start.”

ElBaradei did not elaborate, but his upbeat interpretation was in line with his stated preference for negotiations over sanctions and other tough measures for dealing with the issue.

One diplomat said the talks were “not as good as ElBaradei said, but good enough to have them continue.” Another cautioned against qualifying the discussions, noting that they were in a very early stage. The delegations said little as they left the meeting. The chief Iranian delegate, Ali Asghar Soltanieh, said only that he endorsed ElBaradei’s comments.

Despite ElBaradei’s upbeat assessment, the diplomats said Iran would not elaborate on whether it was ready to ship its enriched material out of the country. They said Tehran had asked questions about the plan put forward by the U.S., Russia and France.

Iran, which holds a 10 percent share in a Eurodif nuclear plant in France, also criticized President Nicolas Sarkozy’s government for withholding enriched uranium from that facility, the diplomats said, speaking on condition of anonymity because the talks were confidential.

Areva, the state-run French nuclear company, has described Iran as a “sleeping partner” in Eurodif, which

Tehran bought into more than three decades ago.

Iran is under three sets of U.N. Security Council sanctions for defying demands that it freeze enrichment. The sanctions include embargoes on all shipments of sensitive nuclear materials or technology.

Before the meeting, Iran’s state-run Press TV had cited unidentified officials in Tehran as saying the Islamic Republic was looking to keep its low-enriched uranium and buy what it needed for the Tehran reactor abroad. One said Iran was looking to the U.S., Russia or France for such supplies — a stance that would likely doom the talks, with neither the U.S. nor France expected to accept anything short of an Iranian commitment to ship out its own material for further enrichment.

Tehran’s continued refusal to give up most of its enriched stock could also abort chances of a second round of broader negotiations between Iran and the U.S., Britain, Russia, France, Germany and China. The first round was held Oct. 1 in Geneva.

The six powers have tentatively scheduled a follow-up meeting by the end of the month aimed at starting negotiations that will ultimately place strict controls on Iran’s enrichment activities.

Iran’s interlocutors were trying Monday to implement what the West says Tehran had agreed to in Geneva: letting a foreign country, most likely Russia, turn most of Iran’s low-enriched uranium into higher grades to fuel its small research reactor in Tehran.

That would mean turning over more than 2,600 pounds of low-enriched uranium — as much as 75 percent of Iran’s declared stockpile.

Tentative plans would be for further enrichment in Russia and then conversion in France into metal fuel rods for Iran’s reactor.

Iran agreeing to ship most of its enriched uranium abroad would be significant in easing Western fears about Iran’s program, since 2,205 pounds is the commonly accepted threshold of the amount of low-enriched uranium needed for production of weapons-grade uranium enriched to levels above 90 percent.

Based on the present Iranian stockpile, the U.S. has estimated that Tehran could produce a nuclear weapon between 2010 and 2015, an assessment that broadly agrees with those from Israel and other nations tracking Tehran’s nuclear program.

If most of Iran’s declared stock is taken out of the country, further enriched abroad and then turned into fuel for Iran’s reactor, any effort to make nuclear weapons would be delayed until Tehran again has enriched enough material to turn into weapons-grade uranium.

David Albright of the Washington-based Institute for Science and International Security, which has tracked Iran for signs of covert proliferation, said any such deal would buy only a limited amount of time, noting that Tehran could replace even 2,600 pounds of low-enriched uranium “in little over a year.” Iran now has more than 4,000 centrifuges producing low-enriched uranium, and its capacities are increasing.

Tehran, if it agrees to ship out the enriched uranium, could also resist pressure to hand over most of its stock in one batch, and instead seek to send small amounts at a time. Iran has enough fuel for the Tehran reactor to last until mid-2011. □

Aruba TODAY

Don't drink & DRIVE

Brazil vows to fight gangs, Rio death toll hits 21

ALAN CLENDENNING

Associated Press Writer

SAO PAULO (AP) — Brazil's president promised Monday to battle drug traffickers who launched a weekend of bloody chaos that killed 21 people in Rio de Janeiro just two weeks after the city won the 2016 Olympic games.

"We'll do anything it takes and make all necessary sacrifices so we can clean up the mess that these people are imposing on Brazil," President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva told reporters in Sao Paulo.

Rio police said the death toll from weekend clashes between rival gangs had risen from 14 to 21 because more bodies were found in the Morro dos

Macacos ("Monkey Hill") slum, where the shooting also downed a police helicopter. Two of the six officers in the chopper died Saturday after the helicopter made a fiery landing on a soccer field, and a third who was badly burned died on Monday.

Silva said the federal government will give emergency funding to state authorities to combat the drug gangs that control many of Rio's 1,000 slums, and will give police a bulletproof helicopter.

He didn't mention security preparations for the Olympics, but said Brazil knows "it will take time to resolve the problems of the gangs,

organized crime and the drug traffickers in Rio de Janeiro." Other Brazilian officials have said the outbreak has strengthened their resolve to make Rio safer ahead of the games and before 2014, when Brazil will host the World Cup soccer tournament, with key games in Rio, the country's second-biggest city.

The new death toll announced in a police statement sent by e-mail to The Associated Press did not say how many of the dead were suspected gang members and how many were bystanders. Some Rio residents complained that officials wrongly classified their slain relatives as presumed criminals.



A police officer aims a weapon next to residents during an operation at the Jacarezinho slum in Rio de Janeiro, Monday, Oct. 19, 2009. Police in Rio de Janeiro say they found two more bodies in a slum wracked by violence just two weeks after the city won the 2016 Olympic games.

Associated Press

"When you have a conflict of this magnitude, the innocent people always pay the price," Silva said.

Rio state Gov. Sergio Cabral said the president promised him \$59 million in fresh funds over the next six months to fight crime.

The International Olympic Committee put aside concerns about security to award the 2016 games to Rio on Oct. 2. Silva has said that Rio has repeatedly demonstrated it can put on big events without risks to participants.



Turkish Kurds demonstrate in support of Kurdish rebels in Istanbul, Turkey, Monday, Oct. 19, 2009. A small group of unarmed Kurdish rebels in combat dress crossed into Turkey from northern Iraq on Monday in a show of support for peace with the Turkish government. Thirty-four Kurds walked across the Iraqi-Turkish Habur border gate, where they were immediately detained by paramilitary police and moved to the headquarters of a nearby military battalion for questioning by four prosecutors, the state-run Anatolia news agency reported. The banner reads: "Open the way for peace."

Associated Press

SUZAN FRASER

Associated Press Writer

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Unarmed Kurdish rebels in combat dress marched into Turkey from northern Iraq on Monday in a show of support for peace with the Turkish government.

The 34 Kurds, including eight rebels, were immediately detained by Turkish paramilitary police after crossing the Iraqi-Turkish border gate at Habur. They were moved to a military battalion's headquarters for questioning by prosecutors,

the state-run Anatolia news agency reported.

Earlier, Kurds in northern Iraq celebrated with music and drums as the group left from a refugee camp, Anatolia reported. The eight fighters joined the convoy from a rebel camp in Iraq's Qandil mountains, where Turkey says the leaders of the rebel Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, are in hiding.

The group was carrying a letter to Turkish officials saying they hoped to make a "modest" contribution to peace with their journey, and

listing requests, including an end to military operations against the rebels, according to the pro-Kurdish news agency Firat News.

Other Kurdish demands included allowing Kurdish-language education and ending what they called "pressure and oppression" by security forces in mainly Kurdish villages and cities, the agency said.

Firat published a photograph of the rebels dressed in khaki pants, cummerbunds and combat vests and walking along a northern Iraqi road.

At the border, thousands of Kurds greeted the group on the Turkish side by waving Kurdish flags, singing, dancing and holding up banners calling for peace.

Riot police stood guard, while a helicopter circled overhead. Dozens of lawyers were on hand to assist the group during questioning, Kurdish lawmaker Sabahat Tuncel told the Associated Press.

The PKK — considered a terror organization by the United States and European Union — said its imprisoned leader Abdullah Ocalan had given instructions for "peace

groups" to travel to Turkey to promote reconciliation. A second group of rebels, mainly Kurds in exile in Europe, was expected to arrive in Turkey at a later date, Turkish news reports said.

The Turkish government has been working on an initiative to end the conflict, but has yet to release any details.

"We hope this will be the beginning of solving the Kurdish case through dialogue and away from the gun barrels," Bozan Taken, a PKK leader, told the AP by telephone. "We want to show the world that we are with peace and we want peace. The Turkish side has to do the same and to find a radical solution to the Kurdish case."

The rebels have been fighting since 1984 for autonomy for Turkey's Kurds, who make up a fifth of the country's 70 million people and live predominantly in the impoverished southeast. Tens of thousands have died in the conflict.

The PKK have claimed that Turkish nationalists and other opposition parties are blocking the government's peace initiative, and say they hope to

encourage the government to continue the process.

Ocalan, who is serving a life sentence on a prison island off Istanbul, leads his group through messages reportedly delivered to fighters by his lawyers.

The rebels traveling to Turkey were selected among fighters who have not been charged with attacking Turkish forces, though five have previously been charged with either making rebel propaganda or membership in a terror organization, Anatolia reported. They all were expected to benefit from a law pardoning rebels not involved in violence.

The government in recent years has provided more economic help and some expanded cultural rights to Kurds, including lifting a ban on the Kurdish language in 1991. At the same time, it has accelerated its military campaign, staging a ground offensive last year against suspected rebel targets in northern Iraq, and launching cross-border aerial attacks with the help of U.S. intelligence.

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

Mathis' double in 11th leads Angels past Yanks 5-4

By GREG BEACHAM,

AP Sports Writer

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Jeff Mathis hit a two-out double in the 11th inning to drive home the winning run and the Los Angeles Angels survived a second straight thriller, beating the Yankees 5-4 Monday and trimming New York's lead in the AL championship series to 2-1.

In a game full of missed chances for both sides, the Angels eventually rallied to hand the Yankees their first loss of this postseason.

Howie Kendrick homered, tripled and then singled with two outs in the 11th.

Mathis followed with his drive up against the left-field wall, and Kendrick slid home well ahead of a desperate throw.

Mathis, the Angels' backup catcher, came up with his third late-inning, extra-base



Los Angeles Angels' Howie Kendrick (47) scores the game-winning run in front of New York Yankees' David Robertson on a double by Jeff Mathis during the 11th inning of Game 3 of the American League Championship baseball series Monday, Oct. 19, 2009, in Anaheim, Calif. The Angels won 5-4.

Associated Press



San Jose Sharks' Devin Setoguchi (16) celebrates with teammates after scoring for the second time during the second period of a NHL hockey game against the New York Rangers Monday, Oct. 19, 2009, in New York.

Associated Press

By IRA PODELL

AP Hockey Writer

NEW YORK — Devin Setoguchi scored two of San Jose's six consecutive goals and the Sharks took advantage of New York backup goalie Steve Valiquette in a 7-3 comeback victory Monday night that snapped the Rangers' seven-game winning streak.

The Sharks got off to a sluggish start in the first half of the first period, falling behind 2-0. San Jose got even before the period was over and then scored three more goals in the second on only 10 shots at Valiquette. No. 1 netminder Henrik Lundqvist took over in the third for Valiquette, who allowed five goals on 18

Setoguchi and Sharks break Rangers' win streak

shots. Lundqvist gave up Ryan Vesce's third NHL goal — second in two games this season — at 3:46 of the third, and one to Patrick Marleau with 1:55 remaining that completed the scoring. New York (7-2) hadn't lost since a season-opening defeat at Pittsburgh, but despite the winning streak coach John Tortorella expressed concerns about how his club was playing. The Rangers allowed more than three goals in a game for the first time this season, and had yielded a total of five in the previous three victories.

Brad Staubitz and Dany Heatley scored in the first period for the Sharks (5-3-1), and former Rangers forward Jed Ortmeyer added a goal in the second before Setoguchi struck twice. Marleau also had

two assists.

Chris Drury and rookie defenseman Michael Del Zotto staked the Rangers to the early lead against goalie Evgeni Nabokov, but that quickly became a distant memory. Nabokov gave up Enver Lisin's goal that made it 6-3 with 2:48 left in the game and finished with 27 saves. Setoguchi started the season with a flourish, posting four goals and five points in San Jose's first four games. After three consecutive pointless efforts, Setoguchi bounced back with three goals in two games. He moved into a tie with Marleau for the team lead with seven goals, one more than Heatley. The Sharks, three games into a six-game Eastern trip, cut New York's lead to 2-1 with 7:11 left in the first on Staubitz's

hit of this crazy series.

"It's been up and down the last couple games," Mathis said. "Luckily we came out on top in this one."

Vladimir Guerrero also homered as the Angels overcame a midgame 3-0 deficit and four solo homers by the Yankees' stars, including Jorge Posada's tying shot in the eighth.

Game 4 is Tuesday night, with CC Sabathia pitching on three days' rest against Angels newcomer Scott Kazmir. Game 5 in the best-of-seven series is Thursday.

For the second straight game, the Angels and Yankees played into tense extra innings, stretching nerves and bullpens still frayed from Saturday's 13-inning, 310-minute Yankees' victory in New York.

Continued on Page B12

first of the season and tied it on Heatley's power-play goal at 18:12.

Ortmeyer made it 3-2 by cleaning up a rebound in front 1:19 into the second, and Setoguchi scored his first of the game during another man-advantage at 6:05.

The Rangers killed off consecutive penalties to Sean Avery, but couldn't gain any momentum or seriously threaten Nabokov.

Setoguchi pushed the lead to 5-2 by converting Marleau's cross-ice pass past Valiquette with 2:39 left in the second.

It appeared the Rangers were on the way to their eighth straight win — a streak they haven't matched since Dec. 27, 1974-Jan. 11, 1975 — when Drury and Del Zotto scored 1:17 apart to give New York a 2-0 lead at 8:34. □

Lee dominates Dodgers, Phillies romp for 2-1 lead

ROB MAADDI

AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP)

— Cliff Lee outpitched the Dodgers, and Ryan Howard and Jayson Werth provided the big swings early as the Philadelphia Phillies cruised past Los Angeles 11-0 Sunday for a 2-1 lead in the National League championship series. Lee provided another brilliant playoff start, striking out 10 and allowing only three hits in eight innings.

Howard hustled for a triple, Werth homered and the Phillies led 6-0 by the second inning. Howard made two headfirst dives during the romp — the big slugger has an RBI in all seven of Philadelphia's playoff games this year, a record streak in a single postseason.

Coming off the most-lopsided win in their postseason history, the defending World Series champion Phillies will try to move closer to a return in Game 4 Monday night. Joe Blanton starts against the Dodgers' Randy Wolf, who hasn't pitched since the opener of the division series against St. Louis.

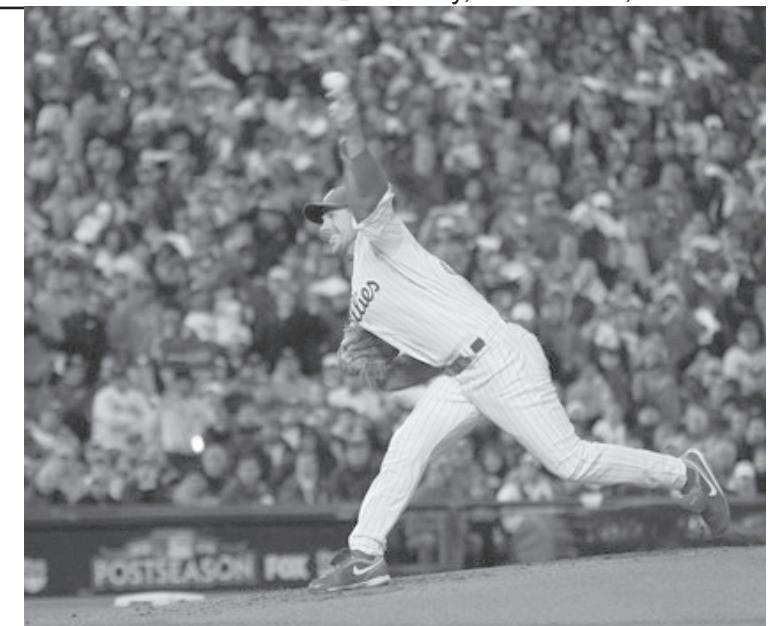
Howard had three RBIs, including his two-run triple in the first. Werth followed that with a two-run homer, and that was more than enough for Lee.

Lee gave up a pair of singles to Manny Ramirez and one to Ronnie Belliard. He hit a single in the eighth and scored on Shane Victorino's three-run homer. Chad Durbin relieved to begin the ninth and pitched a hitless inning. Lee is 2-0 with an 0.74 ERA in three postseason starts, giving the Phillies exactly what they expected when they acquired him from Cleveland in late July. After wasting a brilliant performance by Pedro Martinez in Game 2, the Phillies jumped on Dodgers starter Hiroki Kuroda right from the start.

Victorino's home run to deep right field put an emphatic exclamation mark on the rout. The shot also made the Phillies the city's highest-scoring team of the day — the Eagles lost 13-9 to the Oakland Raiders. Making his first start in 20 days, Kuroda only got four outs. He allowed six runs and six hits. Dodgers manager Joe Torre chose Kuroda over Chad Billingsley even though Kuroda was unavailable

for the first-round series against St. Louis because of a herniation in his cervical spine.

A sellout crowd of 45,721 made Kuroda uncomfortable from the start. Fans waved their "Fightin' Phils" rally towels and chanted "Beat LA! Beat LA!" even before the first pitch was thrown. Ramirez got an earful, too. Fans screamed "You took steroids!" before he struck out in the seventh inning. □



Philadelphia Phillies' Cliff Lee pitches against the Los Angeles Dodgers in the first inning of Game 3 of the National League Championship baseball series Sunday, Oct. 18, 2009, in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

AP source: Detroit Shock are moving to Tulsa

By LARRY LAGE

AP Sports Writer

The WNBA's Detroit Shock are moving to Tulsa, Okla., a team official told The Associated Press.

The official spoke on the condition of anonymity Monday because he was not authorized to make the announcement. Detroit made its debut in the league in 1998 and won titles in 2008, 2006 and 2003. The Shock lost last month to the Indiana Fever in the Eastern Conference finals after rallying to earn a playoff spot.

Last week, a group of investors in Tulsa said they would formally apply to the WNBA to purchase a franchise.

Lead investor Bill Cameron has said his group, called Tulsa Pro Hoops LLC, will exercise its option to buy a WNBA team and expected a decision from the league by the end of October with the goal of having a team in Oklahoma next season.

Cameron and fellow investor David Box — both Oklahoma City businessmen — announced last month that former Tulsa and Arkansas coach Nolan Richardson would serve as the WNBA team's coach and general manager if Tulsa landed a franchise.

A spokesman for Cameron and Box said neither one was available for comment Monday but said a news conference was scheduled for Tuesday morning and that "details would be forthcoming then."

Richardson didn't immediately return a phone message left at his Arkansas home.

The Shock had a lot of success on the court, but not in the stands in a state with four major professional teams along with Michigan and Michigan State athletics.

In the 2003 WNBA finals, Detroit did draw 22,076 fans — setting a record for the largest crowd to watch a women's professional basketball game — but most games were sparsely attended with a curtain covering up the upper level of The Palace of Auburn Hills.

Tulsa, with about 385,000 people, would be the second-smallest city with a WNBA franchise — after Uncasville, Conn. The team would play at the BOK Center, which holds about 18,000 and opened last year.

Cameron and Box are members of the ownership group of the Tulsa Talons of arenafootball2. Cameron also is part of the ownership group of the NBA's Oklahoma City Thunder. □

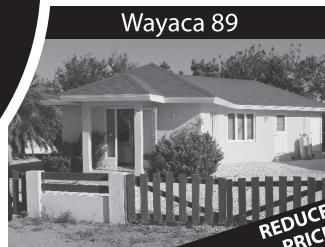


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New York Yankees' Jorge Posada reacts after hitting a home run during the eighth inning of Game 3 of the American League Championship baseball series against the Los Angeles Angels Monday, Oct. 19, 2009, in Anaheim, Calif.

Associated Press

ANGELS PAST YANKS 5-4

Continued from Page B10

Los Angeles wasted a golden opportunity in the 10th after putting runners at the corners with nobody out against Mariano Rivera, but the ace closer came through yet again, getting Torii Hunter and Guerrero with the bases loaded.

Fans gathered across the country at Yankee Stadium erupted in cheers when Rivera retired the side — but the Angels came through in the 11th after Ervin Santana pitched the 11th for Los Angeles.

The winning run came quickly after David Robertson retired the first two Angels in the 11th. He got pulled, and Alfredo Aceves became the Yankees' eighth pitcher. Kendrick singled and Mathis followed with a drive to left-center, hit far too hard to allow a play on the speedy Kendrick.

Mathis, a .211 hitter in the regular season, entered Game 3 in the eighth inning and hit a leadoff double in the 10th.

The Angels ended their six-game ALCS losing streak. The Yankees had been 5-0 in this postseason, starting with a sweep over Minnesota.

Playing in balmy Orange County temperatures after a frigid weekend in the Bronx, the Yankees had a 3-0 lead midway through the fifth inning on homers by Derek Jeter, Alex

Rodriguez and Johnny Damon. Andy Pettitte also appeared to be cruising toward his record 16th career postseason victory, which would have put New York one win away from its first World Series in six years.

Instead, Kendrick hit a fifth-inning homer, Guerrero tied it with a two-run shot in the sixth, and Kendrick tripled off Joba Chamberlain before scoring on Maicer Izturis' sacrifice fly in the seventh to put the Angels ahead 4-3.

But Posada tied it again in the eighth, connecting to deep center field off Kevin Jepsen. Jeter stranded two runners to end New York's eighth, and Los Angeles' Bobby Abreu was tagged out moments later while retreating to second base after his long drive to center.

Only three teams have ever blown a 2-0 lead in a league championship series, but the 2004 Yankees are in that trio. After taking a 3-0 lead against Boston that infamous fall, the Yankees lost 13 of their next 17 postseason games before winning their first five this year.

Many fans hadn't even settled into their Angel Stadium seats for Game 3 when Jeter ripped Jered Weaver's third pitch into the bullpen beyond the left-field fence. It was the New York captain's third career postseason leadoff homer and his 20th playoff homer, third on baseball's career list behind Manny Ramirez and Bernie Williams.

Rodriguez connected in the fourth for his 11th career playoff homer. He already has nine RBIs in this postseason, a career best.

Damon then found the short right field porch in the fifth for his first homer since Aug. 30 and his fifth hit in three games since a 1-for-12 effort in the division series. The veteran outfielder hadn't homered in his previous 120 at-bats, and hadn't connected away from homer-haven Yankee Stadium since Aug. 5.

The 37-year-old Pettitte, a mainstay of New York's playoff efforts since 1996, already has made the most postseason starts (37) and pitched the most innings (231) in baseball history. He yielded seven hits and one walk, but Los Angeles' two mid-game homers made him the first Yankees starter to allow more than two runs in this postseason.

Weaver gave up five hits and three walks in five innings, failing to recapture the dominance of his two-hit start against Boston nine days earlier. He hadn't allowed more than two homers in a game since Aug. 2, 2008.

Guerrero, the Angels' long-feared cleanup hitter, had struggled in every big situation during the series, stranding eight runners in Game 2, but his long shot to left was his first playoff homer in five years.

Abreu nearly started trouble for his former team in the eighth, but he inexplicably went nearly halfway to third base on his long double before trying to retreat to second, where first baseman Mark Teixeira alertly waited to make the tag.

The Yankees also benefited from two baserunning blunders in the division series. The Twins lost a run in Game 2 when Carlos Gomez was caught off second before Delmon Young could score on Matt Tolbert's two-out single. Nick Punto also was cut down trying to retreat to third in New York's clinching victory in its first-round sweep.

Angels closer Brian Fuentes pitched a hitless ninth inning, showing no effects from Rodriguez's 11th-inning, game-tying homer in Game 2. Manager Mike Scioscia ordered an intentional walk for Rodriguez with nobody on base and two outs, a move that paid off when pinch-hitter Jerry Hairston Jr. struck out. □

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Favorito prevé alianzas si llega al poder en Uruguay

MONTEVIDEO (Reuters)

- El candidato presidencial oficialista para las elecciones generales de Uruguay, José Mujica, dijo el lunes que buscaría acuerdos con la oposición conservadora si llega al poder con el izquierdista Frente Amplio, dada la división del electorado.

El ex guerrillero de 74 años, que según las encuestas ganará los comicios del domingo sin la necesaria mayoría absoluta que evitaría una segunda vuelta, indicó sin embargo que no sabía si se podría alcanzar "una coalición con participación en el gabinete".

"Pero puede haber acuerdos puntuales con respecto a determinados puntos que se llevan adelante. Hay que negociar", agregó en declaraciones a la prensa, recordando la división política del país.

El electorado uruguayo se encuentra partido virtualmente en dos mitades entrelaizquierda, aglutinada en el Frente Amplio, y los partidos históricos Nacional (Blanco) y Colorado.

Si no obtiene la mayoría absoluta el domingo, Mujica se enfrentaría en una segunda vuelta el 29 de noviembre con el ex presidente Luis Alberto Lacalle, del conservador Partido Nacional.

Pero el candidato izquierdista ha reiterado su confianza en la primera

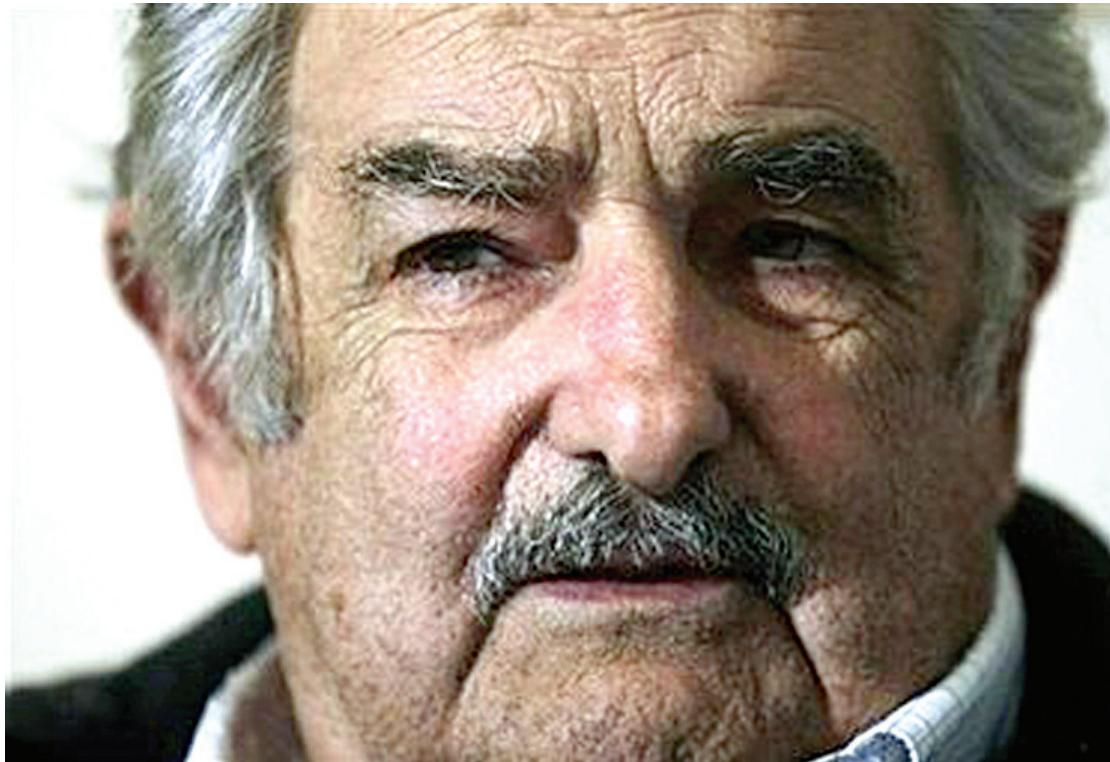


Foto de archivo del candidato presidencial oficialista para las elecciones generales de Uruguay, José Mujica, durante una entrevista con Reuters en Montevideo, sep 7 2009. Mujica dijo el lunes que buscaría acuerdos con la oposición conservadora si llega al poder con el izquierdista Frente Amplio, dada la división del electorado. REUTERS/Andres Stappf

votación, en gran parte apoyado por la reconocida gestión del actual presidente Tabaré Vázquez, cuya popularidad supera el 60 por ciento.

"La causa principal por la cual el Frente gana es por las bastantes cosas que ha realizado este Gobierno", dijo el lunes Mujica a la prensa, respondiendo afirmativamente sobre si habría una continuidad si llega al poder.

Mujica recibió un fuerte espaldarazo el lunes cuando se encontró en una ceremonia pública con Vázquez y ambos se abrazaron durante unos breves segundos, en un gesto reclamado por todas las corrientes del partido.

Vázquez se irritó por una

serie de declaraciones polémicas sobre los argentinos y temas locales de Mujica -conocido por su estilo coloquial con frecuentes exabruptos- que incluso causó malestar entre algunos integrantes de la coalición de izquierda. El presidente llegó a decir que algunas de las declaraciones del candidato eran "estupideces". Pero el lunes Vázquez afirmó que es normal que ambos tengan discrepancias, al igual que con otros miembros de su partido.

"Para mí la relación es la misma de siempre, hemos muchas veces coincidido y otras discrepando (...) esa es la vida de una fuerza política como la del Frente Amplio

pero donde no hay que dramatizar", dijo Vázquez a periodistas tras el fugaz encuentro con Mujica.

"Hay cosas con las que coincidimos y cosas en las que no, con Danilo (Astori, candidato a vicepresidente) lo mismo, con otros compañeros lo mismo y y los uruguayos en general a veces coincidieron con el presidente y a veces no", añadió.

BUSCAN ATRAER INDECISOS

En los últimos sondeos Mujica obtuvo un 44 por ciento de las intenciones de voto, seguido con entre un 29 y 31 por ciento por Lacalle, de 68 años, quien gobernó el país entre 1990 y 1995.

El Partido Colorado, cuyo apoyo decayó drásticamente en esta década luego de ser el que más veces gobernó al país, tiene una intención de voto de entre un 11 por ciento y un 12 por ciento en los sondeos para su candidato Pedro Bordaberry.

El porcentaje de indecisos ronda un históricamente elevado 10 por ciento, convirtiéndose en el blanco de los candidatos en la recta final de la campaña.

Lacalle busca evitar que Mujica consiga la mitad de los votos más uno en la primera vuelta y quiere lograr el apoyo de los colorados e independientes para vencer en el balotaje de noviembre, en lo que se mostró confiado el domingo, cuando todos los partidos realizaron una jornada de masivas manifestaciones. El ex mandatario, que ha buscado mostrar una postura más informal para acercarse a la de su contrincante y ha afirmado que cambió desde 1989, prometió atacar los problemas de pobreza del país, un rubro en el que Vázquez dedicó varios programas considerados exitosos por los analistas.

"La pobreza no es un estado ni una forma de cultura, la pobreza debe ser arrancada de cuajo de la sociedad y será iniciada esa tarea en profundidad, dramatismo y seriedad", prometió en un acto. □

Reabren investigación contra vicepresidente Colombia

BOGOTÁ (Reuters) - La Fiscalía General de Colombia reabrió el lunes una investigación preliminar contra el vicepresidente Francisco Santos, acusado por antiguos jefes paramilitares de sugerir la conformación de un escuadrón armado para atacar a la guerrilla en Bogotá y en sus alrededores.

La Fiscalía inició una investigación preliminar contra Santos después de que en mayo del 2007 el ex jefe paramilitar Salvatore Mancuso aseguró en una diligencia judicial que el funcionario propuso la creación de un grupo para combatir a los rebeldes izquierdistas en el centro del país.

"Se le había dictado en primera instancia un

inhibitorio, ese inhibitorio fue apelado y la vicefiscalía como segunda instancia tomó la decisión de revocarlo y de continuar la investigación preliminar", dijo el fiscal encargado Guillermo Mendoza en declaraciones a Caracol radio.

El funcionario judicial explicó que con la reapertura del proceso se buscan resolver algunas dudas y admitió la posibilidad de entrevistar a antiguos jefes paramilitares actualmente confinados en cárceles de Estados Unidos después de que el presidente Alvaro Uribe los extraditó. Mendoza reveló que el proceso se cerró inicialmente sin practicar las pruebas necesarias y suficientes.

El propio Santos, quien como periodista entrevistó a jefes paramilitares de ultraderecha a finales de la década de 1990, solicitó a la Fiscalía General investigar las denuncias en su contra e inicialmente los funcionarios encargados de hacerlo la cerraron al no encontrar pruebas que lo vincularan.

"Respeto la decisión del Vicefiscal y manifiesto mi disposición a cooperar en todas las investigaciones; hubiera preferido que se me notificara dicha decisión y no que se usara su filtración para sembrar dudas sobre mi persona, mi reputación y la del Gobierno que ha combatido con decisión al paramilitarismo", dijo el vicepresidente en un comunicado. □

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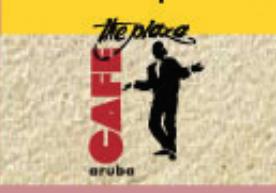
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